



DESIGN AWARDS: THE YEAR'S MOST GORGEOUS GEAR!

103
MAR
2005

MacAddict

A BETTER MACHINE. A BETTER MAGAZINE.

APPLE THINKS BIG

(and gets small!)

MAC EXPO
REPORT

THE
INSIDE
STORY!



- IPOD SHUFFLE
- MAC MINI
- IWORK '05
- ILIFE '05

**Our experts
evaluate Apple's
newest hardware
and software**

—THE DEFINITIVE ANALYSIS!

REVIEWED:

CANON EOS 20D DIGITAL SLR ↓

- GeForce 6800 Ultra DDL
- Photoshop Elements 3.0
- QuickBooks Pro 2005
- Apple Logic Pro 7
- ...and 15 more



HOW TO:

- Create Your Own iPod Game
- Launch Your Blog on the Web
- Unlock Safari's Hidden Powers
- Build Interactive QuickTime Movies

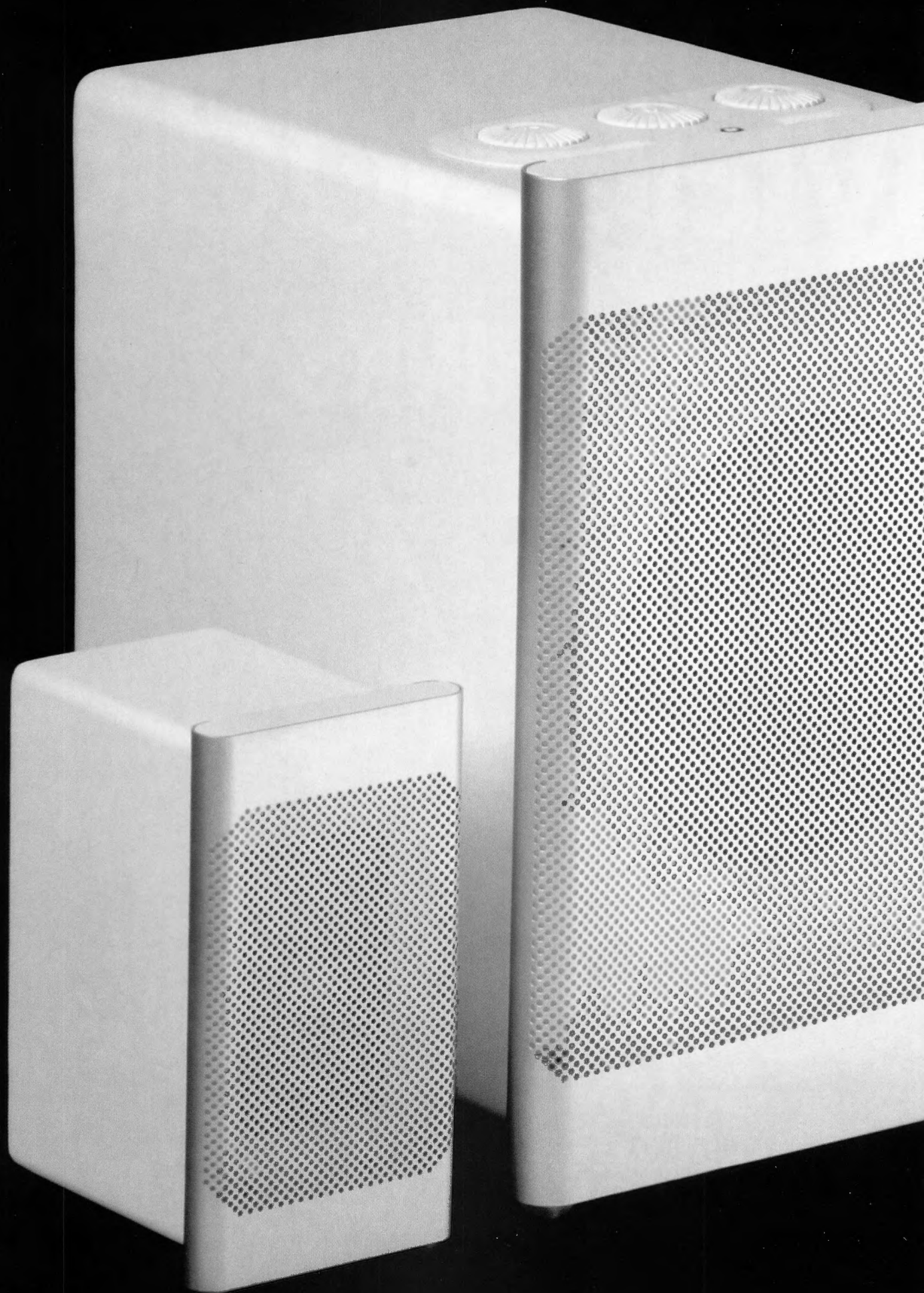


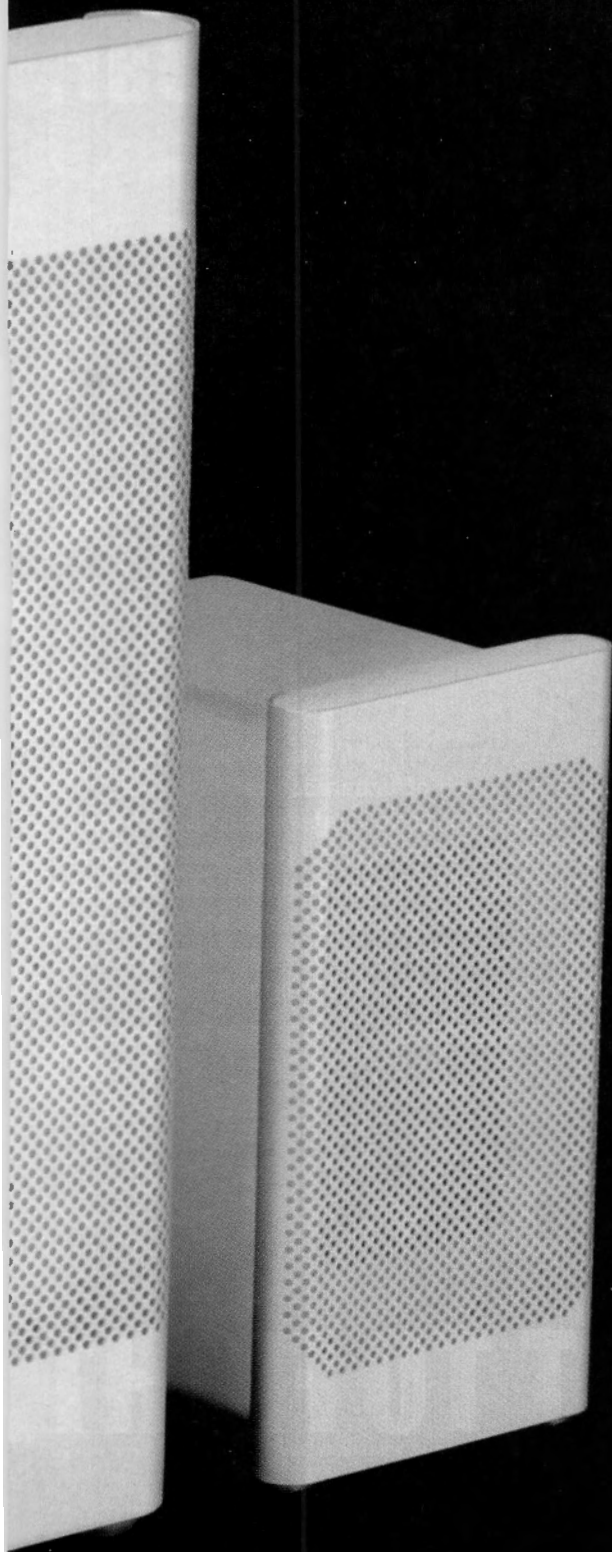
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The stick-of-gum-sized iPod shuffle. The least-expensive—and smallest—Mac of all time. Powerhouse updates to the iLife apps. A duet of productivity apps. Again, Apple takes the computing world by storm—and strikes fear into its competitors. **by the MacAddict Staff**



23 The MacAddict Design Awards

Don't you wish other companies were as good at product design as Apple? Well, some are. In our first annual Design Awards, we show you a selection of the best. **by Jake Widman**

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56 Create Interactive QuickTime Movies

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59 Spelunk Safari

Apple's Safari Web browser is already our favorite—and we show you how to get under the hood and unlock its hidden powers. **by Russ Hunter**



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Apple's most important new product isn't the iPod shuffle.

10 Get Info

Apple wasn't the only company making waves at January's Mac Expo. There was also plenty of cool stuff released by both the big boys and mom 'n' pop shops. Plus, check out an iPod tube amp, the top tax software, the latest developments in the world of storage, and a lot more.

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We'd spend our own hard-earned money on these products.

78 Log Out

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One reader washes his 'Pod, another finds a good use for Apple-logo stickers, and a third recommends her favorite data-recovery utility. Plus, one foolhardy chap tempts fate.

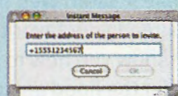
QUICK TIPS FROM THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

➔ FAKE YOUR ID

The next time your bank's Web site balks at Safari, fight back! Follow our directions to cloak Safari in the guise of a more-supported browser. **From "Spelunk Safari," p59.**

➔ CHAT DIFFERENT

Use iChat to send an SMS text message to your sweetie's cell phone by entering



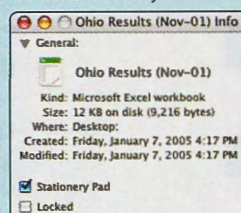
+1 and your chattee's phone number (+15551234567) into iChat's address field. **From Ask Us, p50.**

➔ GET FASTER GRAPHICS

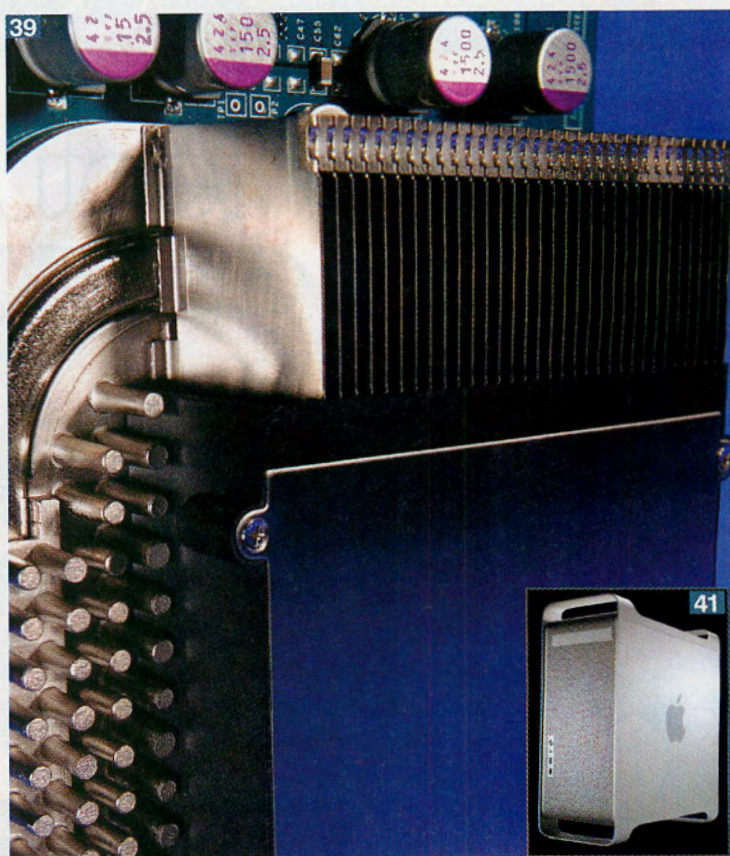
Feel like you're not getting the graphics speed you need for your games? Install the latest OS X update. It has driver tweaks that improve graphics performance. **From Reviews, p39.**

➔ TAKE A NOTE

Turn most any document into a locked stationery file that opens a fresh copy of itself when you double-click on the



original—just check the Stationery Pad box in the file's Get Info window. **From Ask Us, p50.**



79 Contest

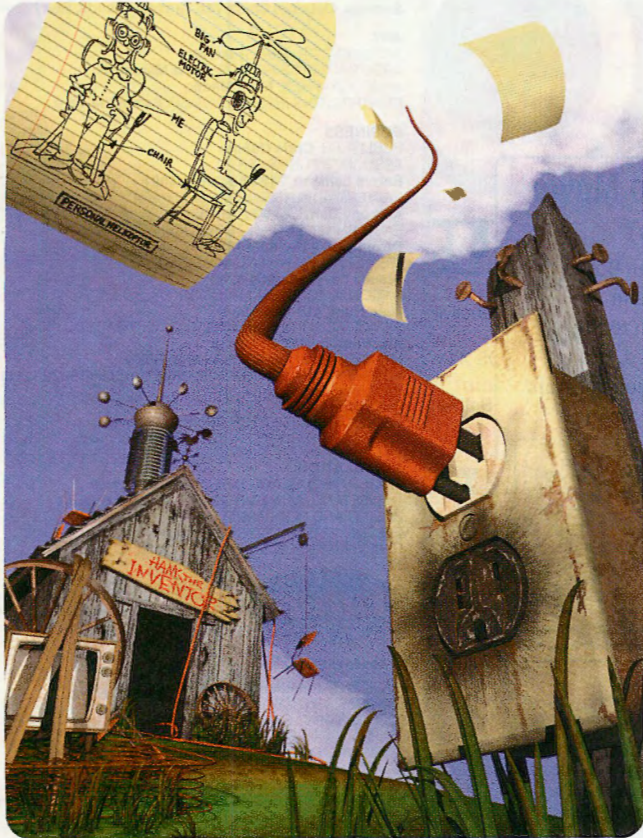
Win a Formac Studio TVR media converter and watch TV on your Mac, record and pause live TV, schedule TV recording with a free online program guide, and capture audio and video from VHS and audio cassettes.

80 Shut Down

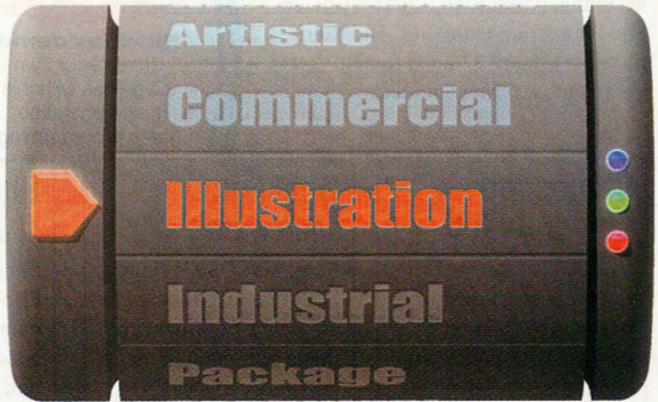
To wrap up this month's Design Awards, we present the best-designed, most-useful product of all time.

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Peter Molina



Chris Szetela



Nathan Koga



Christian Moore

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the disc

On page 56 we show you how to create your own interactive QuickTime movies, and on this month's Disc we give you the apps you'll need to accomplish that feat: Adobe's GoLive and Photoshop Elements. And there's more—a total of 37 apps to help you get the most from your Mac.

Photoshop Elements 3.0 demo

Get most of Photoshop's power for a fraction of its price with Photoshop Elements 3.0—give it a spin for free this month.



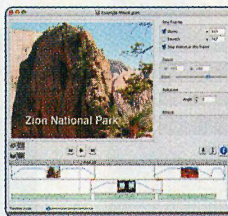
DockFun shareware

Sure, Mac OS X's Dock is a great interface element—but DockFun takes app-management versatility to a whole new level.



Photo to Movie shareware

iMovie's Ken Burns Effect pales in comparison to the zoom, speed, titling, and transition controls in Photo to Movie.



DEVELOPMENT

BBEdit 8.0.2 demo
BlitzMax 1.01 demo
REALbasic 5.5.4 demo
Smultron 1.0.2

FUN & GAMES

Zap 1.0 shareware

GRAPHICS & MULTIMEDIA

Adobe Photoshop Elements 3.0 tryout
MulleSight 1.0.9
Photo to Movie 3.1.1 shareware
Picture Rescue 1.1.0 trial
ScrapX 1.3.5 shareware
Strata 3D CX tryout
ThumbsUp 4.0.1
Totem trial
Tux Paint 0.9.14-2

INTERFACE

DockFun 4.6.2 shareware
XMenu 1.4

INTERNET & COMMUNICATION

Adium X 0.73
Adobe GoLive CS tryout
JiWire Portable
Hotspot Locator 1.0
MacBiff 1.1.11
Salling Clicker 2.2 shareware
SearchGoogle. service 6
ZeroStatus 0.3.1

PRODUCTIVITY

Car Companion 1.2.0

DoubleCommand 1.5.3

EasyFind 3.3.1
Mail Factory 1.4 shareware
Office 2004 Test Drive
StevePerfect 6.0

UTILITIES

Damage Isolation 1.3
Diablotin 1.2.8
DiskTracker (Classic) 2.3 shareware

DiskTracker (OS X)

2.3 shareware

Font Finagler 0.5 shareware

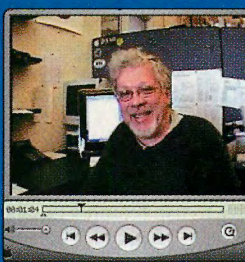
Password Tester 1.0
PrivilegeFix 1.2.6
TuneKeys 2.0.1

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JiWire Portable
Hotspot Locator 1.0
Office 2004 Test Drive
Photo to Movie 3.1.1 shareware
Picture Rescue 1.1.0 trial
Strata 3D CX tryout

Staff Video: Meet Jake Widman

He may look old, but he's new to MacAddict. Meet Jake Widman, the former editor in chief of Publish, who recently joined our merry band as our new features editor.



UPGRADE

If you don't receive the Disc with your copy of MacAddict, you might want to consider upgrading. Each monthly disc contains cool demos, useful shareware and freeware, and the inimitable MacAddict Staff Video. To get 12 issues of MacAddict that include this value-packed disc with your subscription (prorated if necessary) for just \$1 more per issue, call 888-771-6222—the operator will take care of everything.

CREA YOUR OWN INTERACTIVE MOVIES!

We show you how on page 56 you the apps you need o



BlitzMax demo

Create your own 2D games with this next-generation game programming language

MacAddict

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Mucho-Maxi Mini



Something odd happened during Steve Jobs's keynote speech at this January's Mac Expo¹ in San Francisco.

Steve's usual *modus keynotendi* is first to trumpet Apple's recent successes, then tempt the faithful with a sneak peak of future technologies before marching out a parade of increasingly impressive products. The announcement of the final product—the capper, the top of the crop,

the crème de l'Expo—is invariably preceded by the iconic phrase, “And there's one more thing...” The crowd, predictably, goes wild in anticipation of having its collective mind blown—which it usually is.

That's the usual drill. This time out, however, the most important product quietly debuted in the middle of the parade, and the starring role went to a lesser innovation—a decidedly nifty, sexy, sure-to-be-popular addition to Apple's line, to be sure, but a product of far less impact on both Apple's future and yours.

The true star of Mac Expo 2005 wasn't the iPod shuffle. It was the Mac mini.

Think about it. Windows users are hurting. If you have Windows-burdened friends, you've heard their tales of woe. Unless they're savvy security geeks, their peeces are being mercilessly choked to death by spyware, viruses, worms, and other malware variants every time they access the Web. You, on the other hand, surf relatively safely in elegant, Unix-protected bliss. You're in a Park Avenue penthouse with a polite-but-firm doorman; they're in Hell's Kitchen.

However, many malware-mugged unfortunates have had the good sense to buy an iPod—and they have, understandably, been seduced by the 'Pod's elegance and ease of use. Might they now take a long hard look at whether Apple's new compact, equally elegant computer can free them from their peecee pain? Especially when it's affordable and works with their current keyboard, display, mouse, and peripherals? If they're smart, they will.

Now step out of your friend's den and into his workplace. How happy are his company's IT pros about spending their time wrestling with Windows' inherently less-secure structure? Might they welcome a more-secure, acceptably powerful platform that requires a low initial investment, provides demonstrably lower support costs, and offers seamless cross-platform application and networking support? Plus, notoriously budget-minded IT types can also use their existing keyboards *et al* while saving precious space in their inventory closets.

Do I hear paradigms shifting? I do.

Enjoy,

R.k

coming soon: april 2005

Here's what our editors are preparing for the next issue of *MacAddict*.

First, we'll review and rate **Apple's plethora of Expo announcements**. In addition, we'll show you how to **control your home using your Mac**, we'll test the current crop of **snapshot printers** to find out which are worth your time, and we'll help you amaze your friends and annoy your enemies in our **seventh annual April Fools' prankastravaganza**. We'll then explain how to **create a world-class blog**, **control your Mac with your cell phone**, and **surf the Web retro-style** with the text-based Lynx browser. We'll also review **QuarkXPress 6.5**, **World of Warcraft**, a trio of **Wi-Fi finders**, and more. A whole lot more.

STAFF RANTS

Q. What was the most interesting thing you saw at the Mac Expo?



Niko Coucouvanis SHUFFLEUPOGOUS

What was the most interesting thing you saw at the Mac Expo? Watching people sneak out of the keynote as soon as Steve said there might be some iPod shuffles available at the S.F. Apple Store a couple of blocks away. Either that or the sea of shuffle buyers that were already in the store when I got there after I ... um ... snuck out of the keynote early.



Jake Widman DOCTOR OF BOOKMARKOLOGY

What was the most interesting thing you saw at the Mac Expo? Had to be Webstractor (\$79, www.softchaos.com), a browser that doesn't just save a list of pages you've visited—it saves the actual pages themselves. Plagiarism has never been easier, but neither has legitimate Web research. Few products have the ability to change the way I work—this one might.



Mark Rosenthal MR. LIGHTWEIGHT

What was the most interesting thing you saw at the Mac Expo? I like the iPod shuffle. Anything that introduces a new standard of portability is the way to go. For example, if someone could come up with a way for all my house, car, and office keys to fit into one single key, that would be my dream come true.



Noah Tsutsui WORLD OF WARCRAK ADDICT

What was the most interesting thing you saw at the Mac Expo? I happened to see a group of bikers watch a demo of Apple's new iWork productivity suite. Soon, however, the chumps walked away, angrily mumbling about how Microsoft Office has had the same features for years. My response? LMAO!



Roman Loyola SANITIZED FOR YOUR PROTECTION

What was the most interesting thing you saw at the Mac Expo? I got an ear infection just watching person after person at the Apple booth stuff the same iPod shuffle earbuds into their ears. Ewww! Actually, the Expo is one big germfest—the handshaking, poor air circulation, and sneezing crowds in cramped quarters. Plus, it's held during cold and flu season! Next year I'm attending in a plastic bubble.



Peter Marshutz INVETERATE FUN-SEEKER

What was the most interesting thing you saw at the Mac Expo? Of course the iShuffle and Mac mini are great ... but you can see them anywhere. The Expo is a great place to see tons and tons of products that won't make it into the MegaStores. I saw lots of fun iPod and iBook cases and a zillion exotic Mac accessories—some silly, some practical.



Max MACLAIRVOYANT

What was the most interesting thing you saw at the Mac Expo? Being an I-told-you-so kinda guy, I was gratified to see so many of my predictions come true—for example, FireWire speakers (LaCie), an AirPort Express remote (Keyspan), hot-swappable external Serial-ATA drives (FirmTek)—and no PowerBook G5s.

Plus, I saw fans wearing vintage *MacAddict* T-shirts festooned with my smiling visage—thanks, guys 'n' gals!



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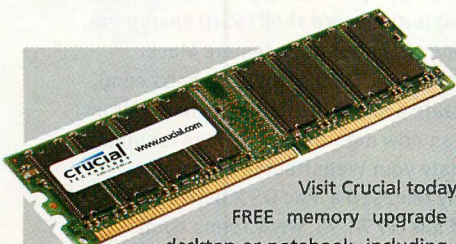
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SCENE REPORT: MAC EXPO

Mac Goodies Share the Spotlight with iPod Gear

“remember when this show used to be about *Macs*!” This phrase and many like it echoed through the halls of San Francisco’s Moscone Center, site of this year’s premier Mac fest. Some show-goers were a bit fearful that all the iPod hype would mean the Mac wouldn’t get the attention it deserved—but if the number of cool products that we spotted is any indication, there was nothing to worry about. Macs haven’t been forgotten. Here’s a sampling of some of the coolest of the cool.—*Roman Loyola*

Hardware

FirmTek’s **SeriTek/15EN2 External Bundle** (\$259.95, www.firmtek.com) includes a two-port Serial-ATA PCI card and a two-bay drive enclosure (drives not included). The drives are hot-swappable and support native Mac OS X RAID 0 and 1. The ART VPS folks from jolly ol’ England crossed both the pond and the red states to show the **PURE Card** (\$3,399, www.artvps.com), a screaming-fast 3D-rendering card for pros who use Alias’ Maya. Newnex’s **FireNEX-CAT5** (\$295, www.newnexus.com) is a FireWire 400 and 800 repeater that extends FireWire range to 100 meters. Primera’s **BravoPro** (\$3,495 for CD burners, \$3,995 for DVD burners) can automatically both burn CDs or DVDs and print labels on them—a robotic arm moves the discs from the burners to the printer. And no, the arm can’t change the empty ink cartridges for you.

Multimedia Devices

Elgato’s **EyeConnect** (\$99, www.elgato.com) turns your Mac into a multimedia server that works with (take a deep breath now) Digital Living Network Alliance–certified Universal Plug and Play (UPnP) digital-media hardware devices, bringing that PC standard to the Mac and allowing you to stream EyeTV recordings and iLife media from your Mac to your home entertainment system. Elgato also released the **EyeTV Wonder USB 2.0** (\$149), a 124-channel cable-ready analog TV tuner. LaCie’s **silverscreen** (\$249, 40GB; \$329, 80GB) is a portable USB hard drive that stores movies, music, or photos that can be played on your TV. You navigate through your files with the included remote control. Griffin

Technology showed a prototype of **FireWave** (\$99.99, www.griffintech.com), a FireWire-based, 5.1 surround-sound speaker-connection box. Central Music’s **UF8 Omnipotent Master Keyboard** (\$599, www.cme-pro.com) is a MIDI-master keyboard with breath control, grand piano-style weighted keys, eight assignable control knobs, nine assignable control faders, USB, and FireWire.

Software

Want another app that “doesn’t suck” from Bare Bones Software? Here’s **TextWrangler 2.0** (free, www.barebones.com), a beefy general-purpose text editor. SmileOnMyMac (now, now—wipe that grin off your face) released **photoprinto** (\$29.95, www.photoprinto.com), a photo-album app that features more design tools than iPhoto. The Net wizards at Netopia previewed their **Timbuktu Pro 8.0** (price not set at press time, www.netopia.com) remote-control software. New features include Rendezvous support, secure shell (SSH) encryption, and remote installations of Timbuktu on remote Macs. Softchaos’ **Webstructor 1.5** (\$79.99, www.softchaos.com), which allows you to create a single, editable document from multiple Web pages, can now monitor a Web page for updates and automatically update your Webstructor documents. Auto.des.sys has finally released a Mac OS X native version of its 3D modeler, **form.Z 5.0** (\$798.95, www.formz.com).



Make marvelous photo album pages with photoprinto.



The silverscreen connects to your TV and plays your movies, photos, and music.



Master your MIDI domain with the UF8.

2005

Bags

Mac Expo, iPod Expo—how 'bout Bag Expo? Bag manufacturers were a-plenty; Axio (www.axio-usa.com), Brenthaven (www.brenthaven.com), STM, (www.standardtm.com.au), Timbuk2 (www.timbuk2.com), Tucano (www.tucano.it), Tutto (www.tutto.com) and others crowded the floor. Australian-based



PowerBooks are pretty in Casuari pink.



Gal Friday? Give us a Crumpler John Thursday.

Crumpler now has the **John Thursday** line of gear cases (www.crumpler.com .au, AUD\$30 to AUD\$40, or about \$23 to \$31 in U.S. dollars at press time), which can be used for iPods, cameras, or PDAs. Casauri (www.casauri.com) showed its **Omni** and **Citra** line of notebook (\$44 to \$120) and iPod cases (\$20) designed for style-conscious ladies or pink-lovin' guys. Shaun Jackson Design crammed more bags into a smaller booth space than any other vendor, including its niftily named **BackOffice** (\$149, www.sjdesign.com), a backpack that can carry your 'Book, books, and a whole lot more, safely and securely.

What the...?

There are always a few products and booths at Expo that stop you in your tracks—you're amazed, perplexed, or amazingly perplexed. Take the **Boom Bag** (\$329.95, www.boombags.com), sure to draw attention from airport security staff. It's a piece of carry-on luggage with a built-in pair of 6-watt speakers plus a subwoofer. It comes with audio-output, -input, and mic ports, and a control panel with volume, tone, bass, and mic volume controls. Liveframe's **Screenvision** (\$349, 20-inch; \$399, 23-inch; www.screenvisionusa.com) is a swivel stand and bezel cover for Apple's Cinema Displays—in case you prefer polished acrylic to anodized aluminum. The **Elysian Cruiser** concept product from Pressure Drop (www.pdrop.com) had many show-goers awestruck. It's a rocket ship—style stand for the AirPort Base Station, but don't expect it to hit the market soon; PressureDrop has no plans to sell it—yet.

iPod Scene

The awesome number of iPod products created a show within a show. Belkin (www.belkin.com), Griffin Technology (www.griffintechnology.com), and Macally (www.macally.com) showed a slew of new products. But we were also drawn to the little guys, such as Better Energy Systems, makers of **Solio** (\$119.99, www.solio.com), a solar power pack. AirLogic's **icombi AH10 Wireless Stereo Headset** (price not yet set at press time, www.icombi.com) uses Bluetooth and requires the **icombi AP11 iPod Dongle**, an iPod Bluetooth adapter. The **LumiPod** (\$24.95, www.lumipod.com) is a flashing light for nighttime joggers, walkers, cyclists, and others who'd prefer not to be run over. Shure—a decidedly not-so-small company—showed their **e3c** sound-isolating earphones (\$179, www.shure.com).

With the iPod shuffle joining the party, what can we expect from the iPod Army? How about trendy lanyards, wacky USB replacement caps, and cases galore—and we're counting down the days until the first USB LCD screen for the shuffle arrives in the MacAddict mail room.



Tap the sun's power for your iPod with Solio.



"Hey, airport security, search me!"



DROOLWORTHY

Sexy Stuff We Can't Wait to Get Our Mitts On

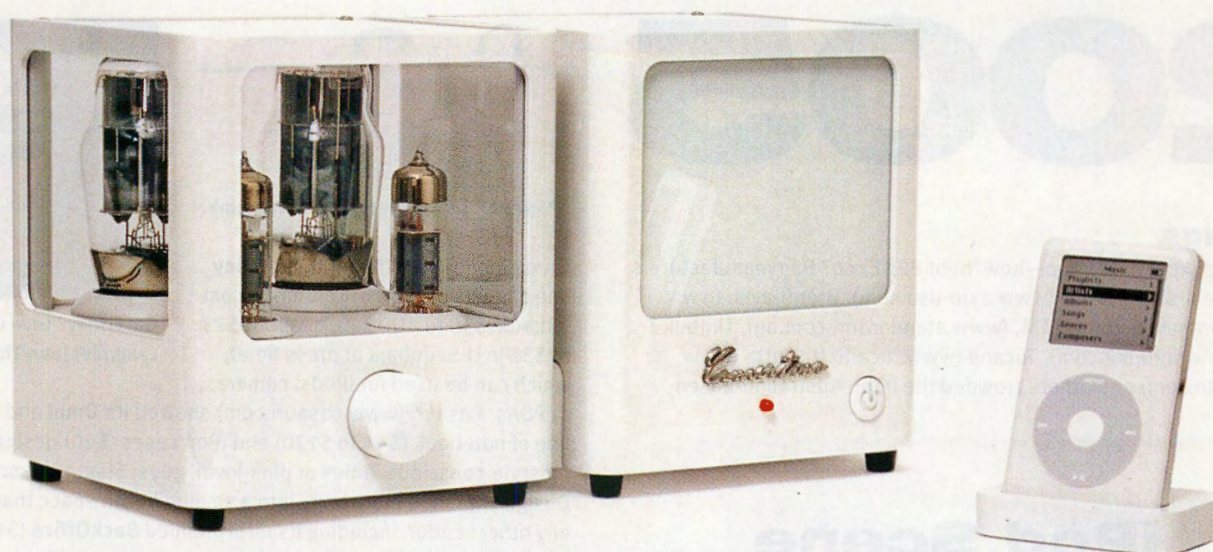


IMAGE COURTESY OF GOLDYSER AUDIO

Totally Tubular ↑

Germany-based Goldster Audio makes the **Concertino** (€3,200, or \$4,240 at press time, www.goldster-audio.com), a tube-based amplifier and speaker set for your iPod. Concertino's amplifier outputs 7 watts and has four tubes and two line-in jacks. The speakers and the amp are encased in white aluminum that has a smooth, satin-like finish, and glass windows let you peek at the tubes in all their glowing glory.

Wall Power →

Sonance's **iPort** (\$598, www.sonance.com) is an iPod docking station that you install into a wall in your home. Of course, you need one of those extravagant architectural audio systems that are built into the structure of your house—Sonance's specialty. The iPort also charges your iPod while docked.



IMAGE COURTESY OF SONANCE

MICRO-MICROBIAL MANAGEMENT

From the creators of Uplink comes Darwinia, a surrealist, 1980s-inspired world filled with epic fractal vistas and populated by iconic, Tron-like video-game sprites. The world is locked in warfare, and you must take control of a squad of Darwinians to secure buildings and exterminate the Red Viral infection. —Matt Osborn

Evolution never looked so vector-based.

Darwinia

Price	TBD
Available	February or March
Ambrosia Software www.darwinia.co.uk	

EVOLUTION BY ALCHEMY

For fans of the Avernum and Geneforge series—and players looking for an epic fantasy role-playing game with a sci-fi twist—we give you Geneforge 3. You are an apprentice Shaper (similar to a necromancer) learning how to create life and mold it to serve your will. The whole world fears the Shapers—until your school is destroyed. Now it's up to you to survive and rebuild the Shapers or join the rebel insurgents instead. —MO

Geneforge 3

Price	\$25, or \$32 with a hint book
Available	First half of 2005
Spiderweb Software www.spidweb.com	

At version 3, Geneforge is deeper than ever.

GAMESPY'S MAC MESS SOON TO BE MAC-LESS?

GameSpy, a major online game-matching service, has significantly raised the price of its software development kit license for Mac game publishers. Until recently, it gave Mac game publishers a reduced rate due to the smaller Mac-gaming market, but now it asks them to pay the same price as their Windows counterparts. This might sound fair, but it can make the GameSpy fees higher than what the publisher paid for the game license itself. The Mac update to America's Army, which is played solely online, has already been delayed due to the increased costs. —MO

DO THE TIME WARP AGAIN

Named Indie Games Con 2004 Players Choice Winner, Zap's a keeper. Imagine great games like Robotron and Tribes with the look and feel of old-school legends like Pac-Man and Asteroids. Now give those games today's online multiplayer modes, plus text and voice chat. That's Zap! —MO



Multiplayer Asteroids? Bring it on!

Zap

Price	\$19.95
Available	Now
GarageGames www.zapthegame.com	

GAME PROGRAMMING 101

Have the urge to remake Frogger in your own image but can't code your way off a lily pad? BlitzMax is here to make your 2D-gaming dreams come true. With an easy interface that taps into the power of BASIC and OpenGL programming, BlitzMax will get your creativity flowing. —MO



BlitzMax 2D Game Platform

Price	\$80 (digital version)
Available	Now
Blitz Research www.blitzmax.com	

TIPS & TRICKS: TRUE CRIME: STREETS OF L.A.

Tired of always being the bad cop—getting suspended or having gangs pop caps into your gluteus maximus? Here are some tips to get you out of the crosshairs and into the Dogg house. —MO

Perform some random searches on people in the streets and arrest them on the spot. Civil liberties? Ha!

► Head down to Venice. It's crawling with people carrying illegal drugs and/or weapons.

► Rose and Dudley Avenues and Ocean Front Walk are also great search-and-seizure areas. Troll the block closest to the ocean for the most scum per capita.

► Instead of engaging in a street fight, flash your badge or fire a warning shot in the air.

► It's best to grapple when your opponent is stunned, so that he or she doesn't reverse the situation and get the grapple on you.

Kickin' it in the city of angels.

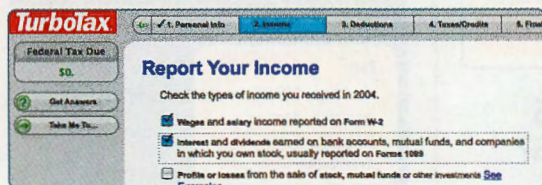
► Once you've picked up the first Dogg Bone, the Map Screen will reveal all the rest.

► Collect 30 Dogg Bones and play as Snoop Dogg. Chuuch!

READ OUR LIPS: DO YOUR TAXES

It's that time of year again, the time when you confront one of life's certainties: taxes. On the surface, every tax software package does the same thing—helps you fill out those confusing tax forms and file them with the IRS—but each one has very different features. Here's the quick and dirty on the two major tax packages for the Mac.

Of H&R Block's seven tax programs, only two are Mac compatible: **TaxCut Premium** (\$39.95, www.hrblock.com) and **TaxCut State** (\$29.95). New to Premium is Life Event Advice to help you with tax issues involving marriage, new home ownership, retirement, and other events; expanded interviews that guide you through complex tax situations such as depreciation, dependents, retirement plan distributions, and Schedule C forms; and e-File Extensions (for you procrastinators), which allow you to file your extension electronically.



Need tax help? TurboTax, like other tax software, takes you by the hand.

regarding investments, Schedule C forms, and rental property, get Premier.

H&R Block, Intuit, and several other companies offer online tax-preparation services that usually run through your Web browser. Prices vary, but most don't make you pay until you actually file, so you can try several different programs for free—useful if doing your taxes over and over is your idea of a good time.—*Roman Loyola*

BUG OF THE MONTH



POWERBOOK SLEEP DISORDERS

Sleep is important to PowerBooks and iBooks—it helps conserve battery power. But some 'Books aren't very good at waking up, and when you try to access 'em, all you're left with is a blank screen. Here are a few things to check in case your 'Book has sleeping sickness.

PLUGGED IN If you have the power adapter plugged in, don't remove the adapter while the 'Book is in sleep mode.

EXTERNAL DEVICES Disconnect any external devices before putting your 'Book to sleep, including external monitors and FireWire or USB devices. And avoid connecting the same devices while your Mac is asleep. Once the unit is awake, external devices can be safely reconnected.

OPEN, CLOSE, OPEN Some 'Books only have this problem when you put them to sleep by closing the lid, then open the 'Book quickly after you've just closed it. Try this: Close the lid, wait for the sleep indicator to pulse, and then open the 'Book again. This may wake it properly.

CPU SETTING Set the processor performance to Highest in the Energy Saver pane of System Preferences—this can prevent the can't-wake-from-sleep coma. With Automatic or Reduced settings, the problem occurs more frequently.

SEATED AIRPORT If you have an AirPort card, it may not be properly seated in its slot. Open your 'Book, remove the AirPort card and then replace it, making sure it is fully and properly installed.

RAM CHECK In some instances, faulty RAM causes the problem. Try removing extra (non-native) modules out of your 'Book temporarily to see if the problem disappears.



Exactly
4,096,000
pixels
working
together.

SUPER- SIZE YOUR DESKTOP

Lucky enough to own a 30-inch Apple Cinema Display? PlasmaDesign's 30-inch Desktop Wallpaper Collection (£7, about \$13 at press time, for lifetime access to PlasmaDesign's collection; www.plasmadesign.co.uk) is designed to take advantage of the display's 2,560 by 1,600 native resolution (though you can also use the desktops on smaller displays), and includes a set of gorgeous landscapes and abstract images that'll have you staring at your desktop instead of doing your work.—*Roman Loyola*

Book Review

REVOLUTION IN THE VALLEY

Apparently, the birth of the Mac is a story that never gets old—how else could you explain the release of *Revolution in the Valley* (\$24.95, www.oreilly.com), yet another Mac-origin tome? This time around it's Andy Hertzfeld, one of the original creators of the Mac OS, who spins the yarn.

Hertzfeld provides a charming first-person account of the Mac's early days. Whereas most origin books focus on the two Steves, Hertzfeld provides insight on the other folks who worked on the project. You'll look



at your Mac with a newfound sense of endearment.

You can read many of the book's stories on Hertzfeld's Web site, www.folklore.org. But there's enough original content in *Revolution* to make it a worthy addition to your Mac library.

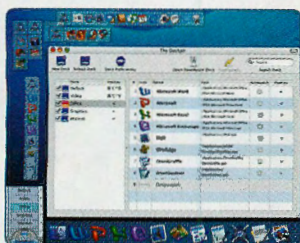
—*Roman Loyola*

SHAREWARE PICK OF THE MONTH

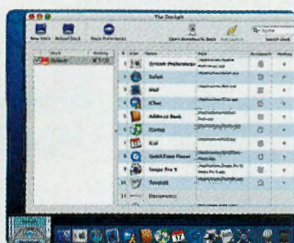
DockFun www.donelleschi.com \$19



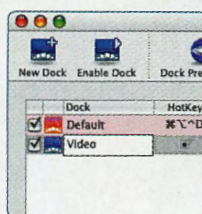
Sometimes the Mac OS X Dock just doesn't seem big enough for us. Donelleschi's DockFun lets you create customized Docks that you can switch between by clicking in a floating window or pressing configurable hot keys.—*Andrew Tokuda*



1 DockFun lets you create customized Docks and have any or all of them open at the same time.



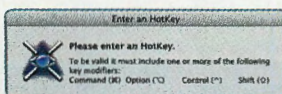
2 Launch DockFun to open a window called the Dockpit. On the left you'll see your currently running default Dock, and on the right you'll see the apps and documents present in that Dock.



3 Click New Dock in the Dockpit toolbar to create a customized Dock, then type a name for it—we've named ours Video.



4 Drag the applications you want to add into the right pane of the Dockpit.



5 Create a hot key to switch to the new Dock. Double-click the dot next to its name and press the keys you want.

6 Select any new Dock in the Dock list and click the Open Donelleschi Dock button to float them over your workspace.

Candy-colored iPod cases. Yum!



IPOD CASE OF THE MONTH

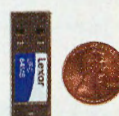
The i-Volution iVod line of leather cases from Vaja (www.vajacases.com) is carefully crafted of full-grain leather by "the most skilled leather artisans." The colorful cases are available in a limited selection of hues for immediate shipping, or you can have one made to order, choosing from a variety of leathers (including ostrich and alligator) in a range of colors. You can combine colors, too—say, Pink Carnation on the front and Nutria on the back. Or if you're really the jammin' type, you might opt for the i-Volution iVod Rasta, a triple-striped job in black, green, yellow, and red.

Prices for the iVod cases depend on your iPod model and your chosen options, which include belt clips and name personalization. Expect to pay between \$65.90 and \$90.—*Roman Loyola*

SUBMIT YOUR CASE Whether your iPod case is a custom-made one-off or a mass-produced product, you can submit it for case-of-the-month consideration—just send it to iPod Case of the Month, *MacAddict*, 150 North Hill Drive, Ste. 40, Brisbane, CA 94005. Please note that we cannot return cases.

What's New

STORAGE



Find a flash drive, pick it up, and all day you'll have good luck.

Lexar Media unveiled a penny-size **USB FlashCard** (pictured, price TBD, www.lexar.com), available in 16MB, 32MB, and 64MB capacities, as well as high-speed versions in 64MB, 128MB, 256MB, 512MB, and 1GB capacities. Hitachi announced a new, even smaller version of their **Microdrive** (the drive inside the iPod mini) with capacities up to 10GB, and named—wait for it—**Mikey**. Soyo's new 1.8-inch portable hard drive, called the **Cigar HD20** (\$199, www.soyousa.com), is a USB 2.0 drive with a magnesium alloy case. IOGear is shipping the **Combo 1.8-inch Ion Drive** (\$249.95 for 20GB, \$249.95

for 40GB, www.iogear.com), which has FireWire 400 and USB 2.0 ports.

Sonnet Technologies released the **Tempo Bridge** (\$49.95, www.sonnettech.com), an adapter that lets you use 3.5-inch internal parallel ATA hard drives in a Power Mac G5 with Serial ATA. Sonnet also released the **Tempo-X SATA 4+4** (\$199.95), a Serial ATA host controller that works in any PCI-X or PCI slot and adds eight Serial ATA ports. FirmTek's **SeriTek/1SE2** (\$99.95, www.firmtek.com) is a PCI-based Serial ATA expansion card that adds a pair of Serial ATA ports. FirmTek also has the **SeriTek/1EN2 External Enclosure** (\$169.95), a case that holds two Serial ATA drives.

Formac unleashed the **Devedeon 16xDL** (\$199, www.formac.com), a 16X dual-layer, dual-format disc burner. MCE Technologies now offers a dual-layer **8X SuperDrive** (\$299 or \$349, www.mctech.com), an optical drive replacement for PowerBook G4s and Power Mac G4 Cubes, and the **MobileStor 100GB** hard drive (\$279), which is compatible with G3 and G4 "Books.—*Roman Loyola*

IMAGE COURTESY OF LEXAR

██████████ SF MAC EXPO 2005

THINK BIG

(get small)

WARNING:
OBJECTS IN PHOTO MAY APPEAR
LARGER THAN THEY ACTUALLY ARE

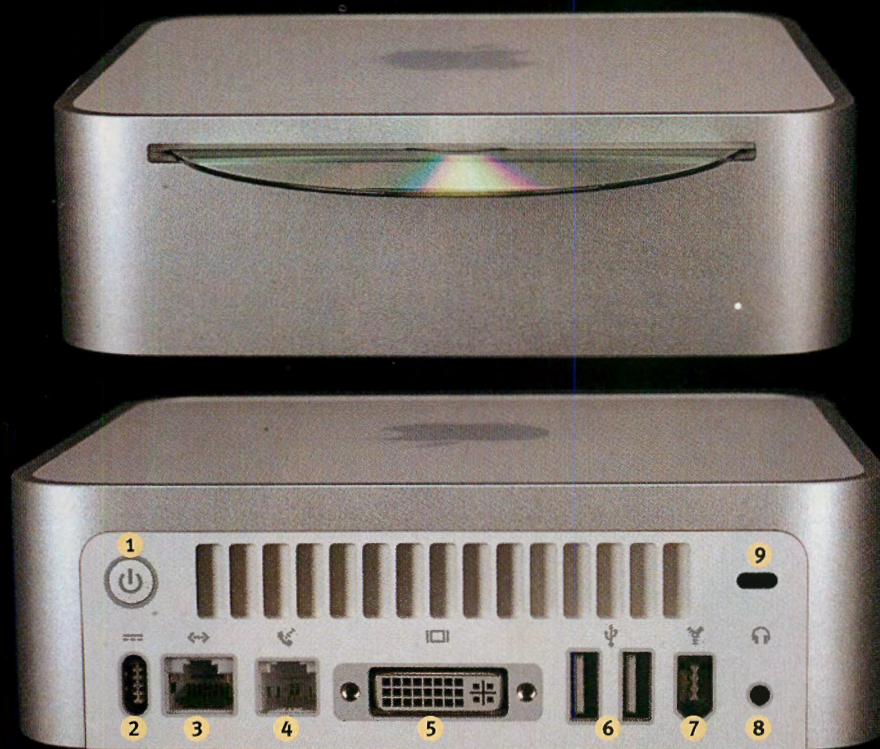


At January's Mac Expo, Apple announced a battery of new hardware and software that both takes aggressive aim at new markets and defends the company's position as the dominant provider of digital-media applications. The powerful-but-petite Mac mini shoots down the argument that Apple's computers are too expensive. The iPod shuffle attacks the chaotic horde of flash-based digital music players. Significant upgrades to the iLife army boosts its capabilities far beyond those of any peecee wannabes. And iWork '05, a new productivity suite that includes an upgraded Keynote and a new word-processing app called Pages, launches a stealth attack on Microsoft's PowerPoint and Word.

Thank the success of the iPod for both the Mac mini and the iPod shuffle. Apple is betting that PC-using iPod owners have been so seduced by the iPod's ease of use (and frustrated that their PCs are continually crippled by viruses and spyware) that they'll seriously consider moving to Mac now that thinking different costs only \$499. And now that the iPod is incontestably the top hard drive-based digital media player, the iPod shuffle is poised to follow its lead and mop up the lower-priced competition.

It's a good time for Apple. It's a great time for Mac—and iPod—addicts.

by the **MacAddict** staff with photography by **Samantha Berg**



Although the **Mac mini** has no front-mounted USB or FireWire ports, its small size makes it easy to access its multiple ports.

- 1 Power switch
- 2 Power
- 3 10/100BASE-T Ethernet
- 4 56K V.92 fax modem
- 5 DVI/VGA (one-piece adapter included)
- 6 USB 2.0
- 7 FireWire 400
- 8 Headphone/audio line-out
- 9 Kensington security slot

Mac mini

Good things come in small packages—very small packages.

You have to hold it in your hands to fully understand—the Mac mini is an elegant 2.9-pound marvel of miniaturization. It feels solid and sturdy, giving no hint of its bargain-basement price.

The \$499 entry-level mini is powered by a 1.25GHz PowerPC G4 and cooled by a slow-moving fan that whispers at a quiet 20dB in normal operation; sensors increase its speed when internal temperatures warrant. The 40GB 2.5-inch hard drive doubles to 80GB when you pop an extra hundred bucks for the 1.42GHz model, but the other basic specs remain the same (see “By the Numbers,” right). You can bump up both minis’ capabilities by adding Bluetooth, AirPort Extreme, up to 1GB of RAM, and a SuperDrive—but you need to order those options when you buy your mini or have them installed by an authorized Apple Service Provider. It is possible—though not easy—to pop a mini open, but if you do you enter Pottery Barn territory; that is, “You break, you pay.”

Although the mini’s body is Bluetooth- and AirPort-blocking anodized aluminum, an Apple spokesperson assured us that the antennas for those wireless technologies, being located just underneath the mini’s glossy white top, provide performance equal to other Macs and iBooks. Below that top also lies a multilayer sandwich of components, with the motherboard at the base (including the same system controller that’s in the iBook), a standard 184-pin DIMM slot along the left edge, and a small oval speaker up front. The mini’s base is made of the

same non-skid material that keeps your iPod dock from sliding across your desk.

As impressed as we are with the mini, it does have its flaws. The slow 4,200 rpm speed of its hard drive may cause poor performance of multiple Real Instrument tracks in GarageBand. The lack of an audio-in port will have you shopping for an external USB adapter. Also, if you plug a keyboard without a USB port into one of the mini’s USB ports and your mouse into the other, where do you plug your iPod shuffle? Finally, the jumbosity of the mini’s 18.5-volt transformer gives new meaning to the term *power brick*.—Rik Myslewski

By the Numbers The only differences between the two stock Mac mini models—here called Basic and Better—are the speed of their PowerPC G4 processors and the size of their hard drives. Adding other options can vault your mini up to a maxi price.

	BASIC	BETTER	TRICKED-OUT
PRICE	\$499	\$599	\$1,501
PROCESSOR SPEED	1.25GHz		1.42GHz
HARD DRIVE	40GB		80GB
DDR SDRAM		256MB	1GB
OPTICAL DRIVE		Combo Drive	SuperDrive (\$100)
GRAPHICS CHIP			ATI Radeon 9200
GRAPHICS RAM			32MB
AGP SUPPORT			4x
WIRELESS CONNECTION	neither		Airport Extreme & Bluetooth (\$129)
KEYBOARD AND MOUSE	neither		both, wireless (\$99)
SUPPORT/WARRANTY	90-day/1-year		AppleCare Protection Plan (\$149)
BUNDLED SOFTWARE			Mac OS X 10.3 (Panther) and associated apps and utilities, iLife '05, AppleWorks 6.2.9, Quicken 2005 for Mac, Nanosaur 2, Marble Blast Gold



The shuffle even has a **Dock**, just like its big brothers. This one's USB, of course.

You can snap your shuffle into a **Sport Case** to keep it dry in the rain (though it's not recommended for scuba trips).

Two AAA batteries in the optional **Battery Pack** provide an extra 20 hours of listening after the internal battery runs out.

Pop the cap off the **shuffle**, plug it into a USB port, and start filling it with tunes.

iPod shuffle

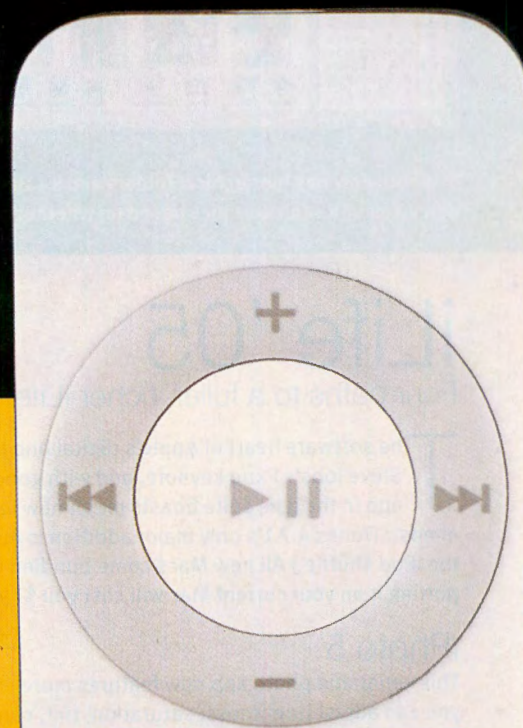
Pick a pack of songs.

Having conquered the hard drive music-player arena, Apple released a flash memory-based iPod that should transform its market dominance into outright ownership: the 512MB, \$99 iPod shuffle.

Weighing in at under an ounce, the iPod shuffle's middle name is *easy*; the front-mounted control pad puts play/pause, forward, reverse, volume-up, and volume-down buttons at the tip of your thumb. Around back, a slider toggles your playback settings, which are limited to running through all of your songs in order or shuffling through them randomly—hence the shuffle's name and Apple's *Life is random* marketing blitz. We think it's brilliant.

Filling the pack-of-gum sized device with your tunes is simple. With the AutoFill feature in the new iTunes 4.7.1 upgrade, you pick a source—any Playlist or Smart Playlist or your whole iTunes Library—and iTunes loads up the little shuffler with your highest-rated songs or a random selection. If you're feeling only partially random, you can mix playlists with random downloads. If you need more structure in your life, you can disable the random-load feature.

We've heard grumbings about the lack of a screen (and Apple's spin of same as a cool feature) and other nitpicking, but such complainers miss the point. The iPod shuffle is the perfect solution for the gym, commute, or any time you don't need to lug around all 15,000 songs in your big ol' iPod maxi. When we get a chance, we'll spring for the \$149 1GB model to make the most of the shuffle's 12-hour battery life.—*Niko Koucouvanis*



Vital Statistics

SIZE 3.3 by .98 by .33 inches

WEIGHT .78 ounces

CAPACITIES 512MB, 120 four-minute songs at default AAC encoding (128 Kbps); 1GB, 240 songs

SUPPORTED AUDIO FORMATS MP3 (8 to 320 Kbps), MP3 VBR, AAC (8 to 320 Kbps), Protected AAC (from iTunes Music Store), Audible (formats 2, 3, and 4), and WAV

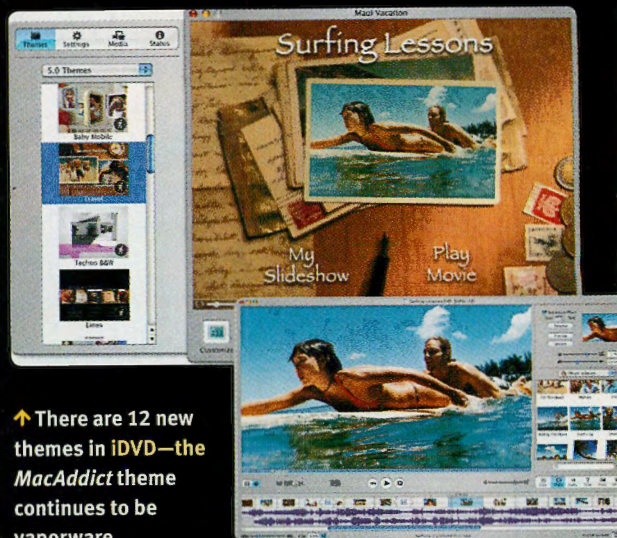
BATTERY LIFE up to 12 hours

RECHARGE TIME 4 hours; 2-hour quick charge to 80-percent capacity

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS USB-equipped Mac; Mac OS 10.2.8 or 10.3.4 or later (10.3.6 or later recommended for use with low-power USB ports); iTunes 4.7.1



↑ **iPhoto** now has hierarchical folders and a calendar that lets you find photos by date. You still can't sort pics based on whether your eyes were open or closed.



↑ There are 12 new themes in iDVD—the **MacAddict** theme continues to be vaporware.

➤ No, we didn't stretch this screen shot—that's a new widescreen preview window in **iMovie HD**.

iLife '05

Four paths to a fuller, richer iLife.

The software heart of Apple's digital hub took up most of Steve Jobs's Expo keynote, and with good reason—each app in the iLife suite boasts major new features. (Well, almost; iTunes 4.7.1's only major addition is AutoFill for use with the iPod shuffle.) All new Macs come bundled with iLife '05, and putting it on your current Mac will cost you \$79.

iPhoto 5

This venerable photo app now features more editing tools—you can adjust brightness, saturation, tint, contrast, color temperature, sharpness, and exposure; level a crooked shot; and even set white and black points. You can import *RAW*-format files—photos that haven't yet been processed—and set their white balance, and even import, organize, and play MPEG-4 videos recorded by your digital camera. Photo organization is now improved with Calendar View, which lets you see photos taken on a particular month, week, or day, and you can now organize your albums into folders. iPhoto slideshows have more flexibility, with 12 transitions, improved slide-ordering, and better timing with synchronized music. Oh, and we can't forget the three new, lower-priced iPhoto Book choices—both hardcover and softcover—as well 19-cent 4x6 prints (not including shipping and handling) available through iPhoto.

iLife '05 Requirements PowerPC G3-equipped Mac to run iPhoto 5, iMovie HD, and iTunes 4.7.1; 600MHz G3 for GarageBand 2 (G4 for Software Instruments); 733MHz G4 or faster for iDVD 5; Mac OS 10.2.6 or later; 256MB of RAM; 1,024-by-768 pixel display; QuickTime 6.4; 4.3GB hard disk space for a complete installation (250MB for installation without GarageBand)

iDVD 5

Not only does iDVD have 15 new themes, it now has *drop zones*, into which you can add still images or video as elements in your DVD menus. If you want to create a no-nonsense DVD, you can use the OneStep DVD feature—just plug in your digital video camera, tell iDVD to use OneStep DVD, and iDVD grabs the video and creates an auto-play disc. You can also save your project as a disk image and burn it later to DVD±R/RW—yes, you can finally use any single-sided DVD format.

GarageBand 2

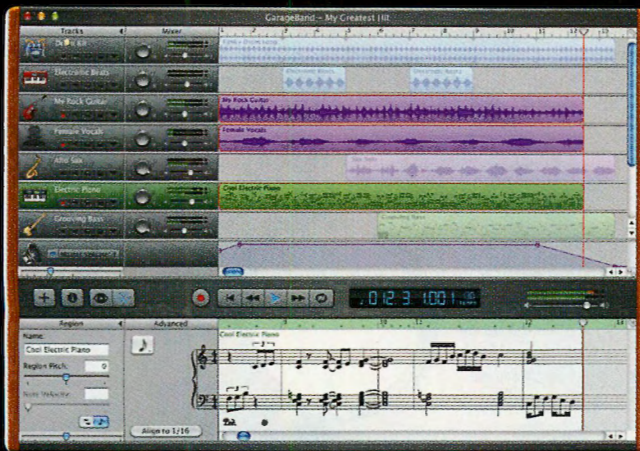
In this update of the popular loop-based music-creation app, you can record eight live tracks at the same time—GarageBand Uno limited you to one. You can perform pitch and timing fixes, change the tempo and key of your recorded instruments, and save recorded passages as Apple Loops that are added to your Loop library. If you actually *write* music, you'll love GarageBand 2's real-time music notation—GarageBand can create good ol' fashioned staves 'n' notes as you play on a MIDI instrument. Can you edit the scores? Of course!

iMovie HD

That's right; the HD means that iMovie now supports 720p and 1080i high-definition video (as well as MPEG-4). Of course, you need to capture your video in HD first, which means you'll need

Killer Video

It's name may sound like an early George Lucas flick, but H.264 is about to launch a digital-video revolution—and it's found its way into iLife '05. Building on MPEG-4, H.264 (aka MPEG-4 Part 10) is a video codec that aims to liberate every media player from your Mac to your cell phone from bandwidth constraints by cutting the size of video files nearly in half. H.264 will be the format of choice in the next generation of DVD players, 3G cell phones, Web content, and Mac OS X Tiger.



↑ If your Mac can handle it, you can record up to eight tracks at a time in **GarageBand 2**, which also has real-time music notation.

➤ **Pages** comes with 40 style templates, such as this one for an 8-page newsletter. It's still up to you to provide the actual content.



➤ **Keynote 2's** new animated text will help keep your audience from nodding off.

a pricey HD video camera, such as Sony's HDR-FX1 (\$3,699, www.sony.com). If you can't use HD right now, you can use ten new video effects, three new transitions, and 12 new Skywalker Sound effects. The new Magic iMovie feature automatically creates movies for you; all you do is hook up your DV camera, type in a title, select a transition type, choose a soundtrack from iTunes, click the Create button, and iMovie HD imports the video and formats the movie for you—it'll even send it off to iDVD for you if you want.—*Roman Loyola*

iWork '05

Heigh-ho, Heigh-ho, It's off to iWork We Go!

It may not sound as sexy as Apple's other new products, but iWork '05 is not supposed to. Rounding out the Apple announcements is this "successor to AppleWorks." According to Steve Jobs, AppleWorks hasn't been rewritten to take advantage of OS X—and it's true: The current version, 6.2.9, is essentially the same app that ran on OS 8.1. The new iWork comprises Keynote 2, an upgrade to the presentation software released last year, and a brand new word processor, Pages.

Keynote 2 adds a slew of new themes and lets you include animated text in your presentations. You can create a self-

running kiosk-style slide show or save your presentation in Flash for use on the Web. And public speakers should love the new Presenter Display, which lets you use your Mac's display to show the current slide, the next slide, the elapsed time of your presentation, and other useful aids, while your audience watches only your presentation.

Pages, which Apple humbly bills as "a word processor with an incredible sense of style," is also a word processor with a solid list of features, including help with footnotes and tables of contents, basic charting capability, and style sheets. You can easily create pages with multiple columns and use the included media browser to drag and drop images from your iPhoto library right into your Pages layout. If designing layouts isn't your thing, turn to one of the 40 included document templates, covering everything from simple correspondence to a newsletter. The templates come filled with dummy text and picture placeholders that you replace with your own; when you choose New from the file menu, you get a palette of templates to choose from (or you can choose to start with a blank document). You can create and save your own templates or get them from someone else—Apple expects Web sites to spring up with templates available for download.

iWork is a successor to AppleWorks (which is still being sold), though, not a replacement. iWork includes no spreadsheet or drawing module, for example. Also, it's not included on any Macs—it's a separate \$79 purchase. But for that relatively modest price, it should satisfy the writing and presenting needs of 90+ percent of Mac users, and it provides a ton of professional templates for the design-challenged. Sounds fair.—*Jake Widman*

Those parts of Tiger that handle video over the Internet will see the most benefit. The videoconferencing feature in iChat AV, for example, should be more fluid and less grainy. Even so, there are obstacles to Apple's prediction that "2005 will be the year of HD." For one, while H.264 is light on bandwidth, it is rumored to be three to five times harder on the CPU than the current DVD standard, MPEG-2. We look forward to seeing how well it runs on the new G4-based Mac mini.—*Noah Tsutsui*

iWork '05 Requirements 500MHz or faster
PowerPC G3, G4, or G5 (G4 for PowerBook); 128MB RAM (512MB recommended); 8MB of video memory (32MB recommended); Mac OS 10.3.6 or later; QuickTime 6.5 or later; 1GB of available disk space; DVD drive required to install applications



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JUST BURN YOUR DISC, FLIP IT OVER, AND THEN BURN YOUR OWN CUSTOM ON-DISC DESIGN. THE LACIE D2 DVD±RW DRIVE IS NOW AVAILABLE WITH LIGHTSCRIBE, AN INNOVATIVE NEW HP TECHNOLOGY THAT ETCHES PRECISE SILKSCREEN-QUALITY DVD/CD LABELS USING THE VERY SAME LASER THAT BURNS DATA ONTO DISCS. WWW.LACIE.COM



MacAddict Design Awards

We send this year's models down the runway and select some fine-looking products that deserve to be seen alongside your Mac.

Apple has long been known for its design savvy. Consider the iMacs, which have been winning design awards for well over six years. Then there are the Cinema Displays, which we've called "damn good-looking" and "gorgeous." And don't even get us started about the iPod, iPod mini, and iPod shuffle: Mentioning "iPod" and "jewelry" in the same sentence has become a mass-media cliché.

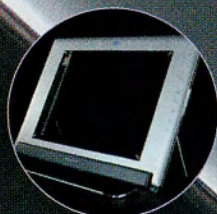
The Mac and its Apple-made accessories are lovely, no doubt. But what about all the other stuff you use with your Mac? What printer do you put next to your sexy iMac G5? What scanner should share your desk with that gorgeous Cinema Display? And if you choose to replace your Apple mouse with one that has (gasp) two buttons or

(saints preserve us!) a scroll wheel, which model deserves to share space with your docked 'Pod?

That's what we set out to determine. Good design isn't just about how a product looks sitting inert on a table, so we got our hands on dozens of the best-looking products and examined them in person. Since a well-designed digital camera won't force your finger over its flash, and the most beautiful printer is a bust if it's got a lousy paper tray, we put each product through its paces before making our final judgments.

And that's what the following pages present: the best-designed products that appeared in the past year. They won't embarrass you—or your Mac.

by
Jake Widman
judged by
the MacAddict
staff



THE SCANJET 4670 ALSO
WORKS STANDING UP

Scanners

AWARD WINNER: HP Scanjet 4670


HONORABLE MENTION: CANON CANOSCAN LiDE 35

Both the Scanjet 4670 and the Canon CanoScan LiDE 35 have a lot going for them; designwise, it comes down to revolutionary versus tried-and-true. The Scanjet 4670 looks like a thick window mounted on a stand—visually striking and taking up little room on your desktop. You can even hold up the scanning unit to scan that photo of Grandma while it's still on the wall.

Our enthusiasm for the Scanjet, however, is tempered by how its lower-end sibling performed in our recent scanner face-off (●●●●● Oct/04, page 36), and by the fact that it's all too easy to get grubby fingerprints on the glass. The low-slung LiDE 35 (●●●●● Oct/04, page 35) looks great for a regular ol' flatbed. "I would buy this one," said one judge, "because it looks like a scanner." Plus, fans of CatScans.com can put their kittens right on the glass thanks to the LiDE's extendable lid.

COMPANY: Hewlett-Packard
CONTACT: 800-752-0900, www.hp.com
PRICE: \$199.99
REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 9.1 or higher,
OS X 10.1.5 or 10.2 or higher, USB port

COMPANY: Canon
CONTACT: 800-652-2666, usa.canon.com
PRICE: \$79.99
REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS X 10.1.3 or
higher, 128MB RAM



CANON
CANOSCAN LIDE 35

Q. What Makes a Well-Designed Product?

Mark Rolston
Vice President of Digital Media, Frog Design
WELL-DESIGNED PRODUCT:
Porsche 911 model 977

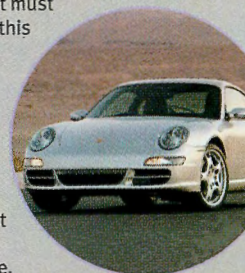
A. At Frog Design, we believe that good design is based first on whether a product successfully delivers what it promises. A product makes a promise, and it must fulfill that promise. A lot of products I've bought this year didn't fulfill their promise.

Accomplishing this often requires self-restraint.

There's a temptation to throw in the kitchen sink so you can satisfy everybody, but self-restraint opens the doors to truly satisfying the audience you're targeting. For instance, Ferrari makes no promises in its automobile design about comfort or the vehicles' suitability for family errands. And that means the company doesn't have to make compromises to accommodate things that they haven't promised.

The goal in product design is to come up with an object that's truly lovable.

There's a difference between a friend and a lover, and it's not a rational distinction—it shouldn't be rational. And just being functional won't get you there—there's got to be something quirky or distinctive. The product I'd pick to illustrate this is the current 977 model of the Porsche 911. In the previous 996 model, from the late 1990s, Porsche designed the lovability out of it—the company made it too smooth and perfect. Porsche fans didn't like it. For the 977, Porsche put some of the traditional design quirks back in, which makes it more lovable.



PORSCHE 977

MacAddict Design Awards

Displays

AWARD WINNER: Sony SDM-P234/B LCD Display

First of all, we love this 23-inch display's lazy Susan base—a metal disk that spins without sliding across your desk. Another nice touch is the removable cover in the back that covers and organizes the cables—neatness counts. We would like this display even more if it had a built-in USB hub—as does the Formac Gallery Xtreme 2010 (●●●●● Mar/05, page 44), another contender—but that wouldn't do anything for the SDM-P234/B's looks. And looks, after all, are what these awards are about.

COMPANY: Sony

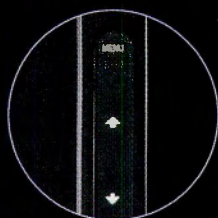
CONTACT: 877-865-7669,

www.sonystyle.com

PRICE: \$1,999.99

REQUIREMENTS: NVidia or ATI

Radeon 7500 graphics card or better, HD15 interface



LEDS ILLUMINATE THE
INTUITIVE CONTROLS



A SNAP-ON COVER CONCEALS
UNSIGHTLY CABLES



THE METAL BASE SPINS SMOOTHLY,
BUT DOESN'T SLIDE



Q. What Makes a Well-Designed Product?

Don Norman
Principal of the Nelsen Norman Group and author of Emotional Design

WELL-DESIGNED PRODUCT:
Namiki Pilot Vanishing Point

A. I consider that there are three requirements for good product design. First, there's the visceral aspect, the product's appearance—simply, is it attractive? Then there's the behavioral aspect—how well does it work? And finally there's the reflective aspect—how do you feel about it after you've owned it a while?

One of the products I like to use as an example of good design is the Namiki Pilot Vanishing Point fountain pen, because it fulfills all three of those requirements. First, it's very attractive, and it feels good—it's made out of some kind of fancy, smooth, wonderful-to-touch metal.

Second is its behavior: It works more like a ballpoint pen than like a fountain pen. It has a button on the top that you click and the fountain pen nib comes out of a little hole in the tip. A little door in the hole keeps it airtight when the nib is retracted.

The clip that holds the pen in your pocket appears to be at the "wrong" end of the pen, but it turns out to be exactly the right end. It's at the tip end, which means the pen doesn't ever leak into your shirt pocket. And it turns out that it's in just the right place to guide the fingers to hold the pen properly.

So the pen is viscerally and behaviorally appealing. But besides that, on the reflective level, using it is always enjoyable. And I always have fun talking about it like this!

There's another great product I'd like to mention. It's from Apple, but it's not really a technology product. It's the box that the big iPod comes in—there's something about the way the top is split and unfolds when you open it. I've found that people who don't save boxes nevertheless save the iPod box just because they love it so much.



VANISHING POINT



Snapshot Printers

AWARD WINNER: Canon CP-330

This portable beauty, which creates 4-by-8-inch or smaller prints, is tiny compared to most of its competitors, measuring a mere 6.7 by 4.8 by 2.2 inches. The CP-330 is so compact and beautifully symmetrical that it makes other snapshot printers look ungainly. We like the way it reminds us of an old-fashioned camera. We like the touch of blue on its top. We like the way the battery snaps onto the back. Let's just say we like it.

COMPANY: Canon

CONTACT: 800-652-2666, usa.canon.com

PRICE: \$279

REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 9.x or 10.1 or later, USB port; for printing without computer, digital camera compatible with Canon Direct Print or PictBridge

CANON
CP-330

Audio Accessories

AWARD WINNER: Radio Shark

HONORABLE MENTION: ROKU SOUNDBRIDGE M1000

Maybe the Radio Shark looks cooler than it needs to—but since when is that a problem in a design contest? Frankly, there's no good reason this FM receiver and recording device (●●●●● Feb/05, page 46) should look like a shark's fin—but we're glad that Griffin Technology decided there was no good reason for it *not* to. Add in the glowing stripes on its side, and this little fish won us over.

Remember back before there were ATMs? You'd go to your bank's drive-up window and stuff your checks and deposit slips in a heavy cylinder that—*whoosh!*—got sucked through a pneumatic tube into the bank. The Roku Soundbridge (●●●●● Feb/05, page 46), which lets you pipe music from your Mac to your home stereo, reminds us of one of those cylinders. Our sense of nostalgia, combined with an appreciation of clean modern lines, makes us unreasonably fond of this simple device.

COMPANY: Griffin Technology

CONTACT: 615-399-7000, www.griffintechnology.com

PRICE: \$69.99

REQUIREMENTS: G4 processor, Mac OS 10.2 or later, USB port

COMPANY: Roku

CONTACT: 888-600-7658, www.rokulabs.com

PRICE: \$199.99, \$249.99 with

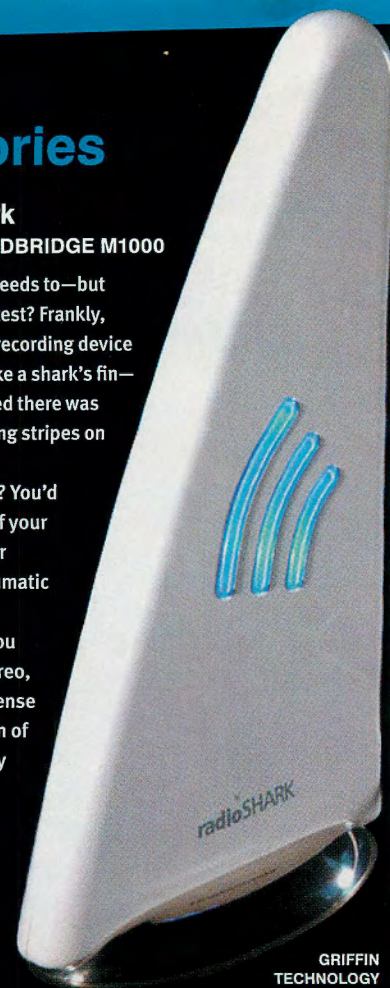
AirPort support

REQUIREMENTS: 400MHz G3

processor or faster,

Mac OS 10.1.5 or later, iTunes 4.0 or later,

128MB RAM, Ethernet or AirPort



GRIFFIN
TECHNOLOGY
RADIO SHARK



ROKU
SOUNDBRIDGE M1000

Mice

AWARD WINNER: Microsoft Optical Mouse by Starck

HONORABLE MENTION: LOGITECH MX1000 LASER CORDLESS MOUSE



MICROSOFT OPTICAL
MOUSE BY STARCK



LOGITECH MX1000 LASER
CORDLESS MOUSE

COMPANY: Microsoft

CONTACT: 888-218-5617, www.microsoft.com

PRICE: \$14.95

REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 10.1 or later, USB port

The Microsoft Optical Mouse by Starck (●●●●● Oct/04, p60), designed by Philippe Starck, places a glowing strip of blue or orange down the middle of a smooth silver curve. It's not flashy; it's tasteful. The symmetrical mouse feels equally good in either your right or your left hand—both of our judges who've been using it regularly plan to keep it on their pads.

Logitech's MX1000 Laser Cordless Mouse excels in both form and function—make that *functions*. Macsters who haven't graduated to a two-button mouse may want to be careful with this one—it has eight buttons, including one for switching applications, plus an illuminated battery indicator and a scroll-and-tilt wheel. Just don't grip this ergonomic mouse too tightly or there's no telling which button you'll end up clicking.

COMPANY: Logitech

CONTACT: 510-795-8500, www.logitech.com

PRICE: \$79.95

REQUIREMENTS: Macintosh OS 10.x, USB port, CD-ROM drive



THIS PLAYER WEARS ITS NAME PROUDLY



INCLUDES OVER-THE-EAR MINI 'PHONES, NOT IN-YOUR-EAR BUDS.

MP3 Flash Players

Award Winner: Rio Forge

The Rio Forge series of flash-based MP3 players is made "for people that like to play hard," sez Rio, and they combine rugged good looks with stylishness—sort of like Tom Cruise in *Collateral*. The players come in three colors, depending on capacity, and our judges deem them "very workout-friendly" and "grabbable."

COMPANY: Rio

CONTACT: 866-286-3662, www.rioaudio.com

PRICE: \$139.99 to \$219.99 (depending on capacity)

REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 10.2 or later, USB port

Inkjet Printers

AWARD WINNER: HP Deskjet 6540

HONORABLE MENTION: CANON PIXMA iP8500

Canon's Pixma iP8500 drew appreciative comments as soon as we pulled it out of the box: "That's really slick." "I like its curves." "Cool corner-mounted power button." We also liked its automatic paper tray and manual feed—something the Deskjet lacks. But the more we looked at the Pixma and compared it to the Deskjet 6540, the more we started to pick. "It looks kinda dated, like something from *2001: A Space Odyssey*." The Pixma looks great with its various trays closed, but you can't use it that way—and we confess we're not the kind of people who tidy away their paper trays when they're finished printing.

COMPANY: Hewlett-Packard

CONTACT: 800-752-0900, www.hp.com

PRICE: \$129.99

REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 9.1 or later, OS 10.1.5 or later

The Deskjet, in comparison, has simple, clean lines. "It reminds me of my toaster oven," one judge commented—and he meant that as a compliment. We like its mirrored sides and smooth metallic top, broken only by a single seam. Our biggest complaint is with the Deskjet's paper tray, which is so flexible that it feels flimsy. "I don't care if it's actually durable, I don't want my paper tray to feel like that," said a judge.

Ultimately, it came down to a choice between ambitious, innovative, but a little overengineered; and clean and classic. This time, clean and classic wins, so the Deskjet 6540 gets the nod.

COMPANY: Canon

CONTACT: 800-652-2666, <http://usa.canon.com>

PRICE: \$349.99

REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 9.x, Mac OS 10.2.1 or later, USB port



FRONT-MOUNTED CONTROLS ARE EASY TO USE



ALSO IN FRONT: A USB-B PORT

MacAddict
**Design
Awards**

HP DESKJET
6540

Cameras

AWARD WINNER: Sony CyberShot DSC-M1

HONORABLE MENTION: FISHER POCKET
CAMERACORDER FVD-C1, OLYMPUS
STYLUS VERVE, PANASONIC LUMIX
DMC-FX7, PENTAX OPTIOX

This was a tough one. We have something good to say about each of these cameras, and it's not like the CyberShot has all the others' best features. Although the CyberShot pulls ahead on points, we decided to invite all five to the party.

The CyberShot is a radical departure from traditional camera design—folded closed, it's an almost featureless gray slab. You slide the LCD out to open it, winding up with something like a chubby L-square. We aren't sure we like the way it makes you access the controls with your thumb, but we do like how solid the CyberShot feels in our hands.

As for the others: The Fisher FVD-C1 also reimagines what a camera can look like—just don't use this pistol-grip camera to take pictures of an angry cop. The Stylus Verve is definitely, well, stylish—it does feel as though it might slip out of your hands like a bar of soap, but it looks great hanging off your wrist. Our affection for the Panasonic Lumix grew the more we used it; the large, bright LCD makes your shots easy to see and the menus easy to read. And while we're not sure the stubby joystick on the swivelable Pentax OptioX is an improvement on the standard click wheel, we do like seeing some fresh thinking.



COMPANY: Sony
CONTACT: 877-865-7669,
www.sonymstyle.com
PRICE: \$599.95
REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS
9.1 or later or 10.0 or later

COMPANY: Sanyo Fisher
CONTACT: 818-998-7322,
www.fisherav.com
PRICE: \$799.99
REQUIREMENTS: Mac
OS 8.6 or later

COMPANY: Olympus
CONTACT: 888-553-4448,
www.olympusamerica.com
PRICE: \$349.99
REQUIREMENTS: Mac
OS 9.0 or later

COMPANY: Panasonic
CONTACT: 800-211-7262,
www.panasonic.com
Price: \$499.99
REQUIREMENTS: Mac
OS 9.x or later

COMPANY: Pentax
CONTACT: 800-877-0155,
www.pentaximaging.com
PRICE: \$449.99
REQUIREMENTS: Mac
OS 8.6 or later

Q. What Makes a Well-Designed Product?

Ken Fry
Industrial Design Group Director, Microsoft

WELL-DESIGNED PRODUCT:
Phillippe Starck Costes chair

A. Great product design goes beyond the product itself. It's about what the product does to fulfill someone's dreams of what they want to be when engaging with the product.

In my group, we look at six aspects of design when we research and develop our projects:

- First, the physical aspect: Is it comfortable to hold?
- Second, the cognitive one: Is it easy to use?
- Third, the emotional one: Do you fall in love with it?
- Fourth, the cultural one: How well does it meet people's needs worldwide? For instance, we designed our wireless notebook optical mouse largely based on feedback from Japan. Our research there revealed a great respect for symmetry.
- Fifth, the environmental one: How does it fit in within the ecosystem of products in the office or home? We never design a product in isolation from other products.
- Sixth, the social one: How well does it support the social behaviors

of the people using the product?

Furniture design was my passion as a student, so there will always be a special place in my heart for furniture. My product choice is the Costes chair by Philippe Starck. It's a beautiful three-legged chair that conveys simplicity, whimsy, and an iconic feel. The Costes chair displays the same attitude you can see in his most recent work.

I couldn't even begin to talk about furniture design, though, without mentioning Charles and Ray Eames. The Eames DCM is a classic; its curved plywood really speaks to the physicality of the people who sit in it.

I see product design trending toward a combination of simplicity with personal expression. The iPod and the Starck mouse are great manifestations of that. They are simple in form and function, but they both offer ways to express yourself through distinctive color.



COSTES CHAIR

PHOTO COURTESY THE MAGAZINE.



iTrip mini shown
(actual size)

Let me take you on a trip...

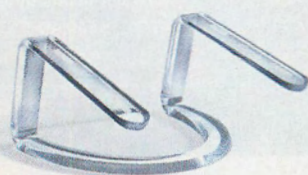
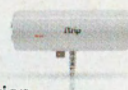
Quick, where do you most often listen to music? In your car, right? The easiest way to enjoy all of that music in your car is the Griffin iTrip. Snap iTrip on your iPod or iPod mini and suddenly your music is filling up your next road trip, daily commute or business trip - right through the built-in FM stereo of any car. Buy an iTrip for your iPod or iPod mini and your favorite song will always be on the radio.

iTrip FM Transmitter for iPod

\$39⁹⁹

- The **only** FM Transmitter designed exclusively for the iPod & iPod mini
- Choose any empty station from 87.7 to 107.9, and change your iTrip stations directly from the iPod

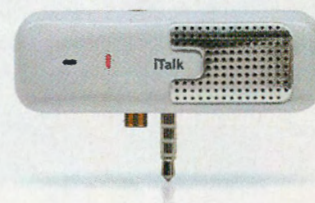
- iTrip for 4G iPods also available. Please visit us online for more information
- Draws power from the iPod, no batteries ever needed—or wasted



iCurve Laptop Desktop Stand

\$39⁹⁹

- Raises notebook screen to eye level - no more sore neck from looking down
- Creates room on the desktop for your favorite USB keyboard and mouse - wireless versions work great
- Keeps your notebook running cool (and loud fans off) with 360° airflow



iTalk Voice Recorder for iPod

\$39⁹⁹

- Turn your iPod into a digital voice recorder with thousands of hours of recording time
- Automatic Gain Control assures the best possible signal level for recordings
- Features internal microphone and built-in laptop quality speaker for playback
- Connect an external microphone or even headphones to the built in pass-through mini jack connection on top



iMic USB Audio Interface

\$39⁹⁹

- Record your old records and tapes to play in iTunes, put on your iPod, or burn to CDs
- Connect any keyboard, guitar or microphone directly to GarageBand for high quality recording
- Use line level output to connect your Mac to a stereo or external powered speakers

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blown away.



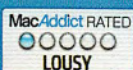
You'll be
impressed.



You'll be
satisfied.



You'll be
disappointed.



You'll be
pissed off.

better living through smarter shopping

Can you fall in love with a product? Well, maybe love is too strong a word—perhaps devotion is a better term. We can understand how you'd develop strong feelings for Adobe Photoshop Elements 3, Canon's EOS 20D, and Apple's Logic Pro 7. Then there are the products you might take for granted: nVidia's GeForce 6800 Ultra DDL (pictured) and BeLight's Mail Factory. If you're still not swept away, try next month, when we look at QuarkXPress 6.5, Blizzard's World of Warcraft, Wolfram Research's Mathematica 5.1, and a lot more.

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X Compatible with
Mac OS X or later.

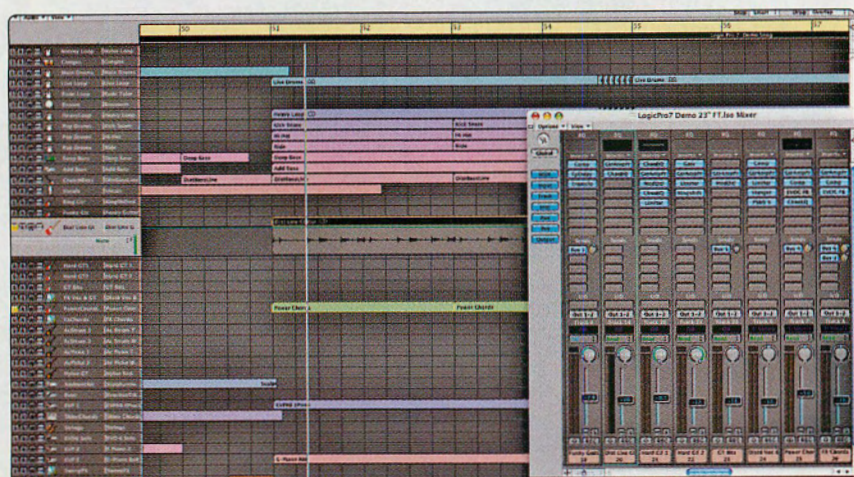
9 Compatible with
Mac OS 9 or earlier.



We'd spend our
own hard-earned
money on this
product.

Logic Pro 7

COMPREHENSIVE AUDIO-PRODUCTION SOFTWARE



Some might see the redesigned—and GarageBand-dark—color scheme of Logic Pro 7 as logical, but we found it a bit hard to read.

Apple's Logic has always been a formidable MIDI and audio-recording tool, brainy but with an eccentric interface. Its latest incarnation, Logic Pro 7, feels like GarageBand Pro—it's packed with a boatload of new sounds and tools, a slightly overwhelming array of wondrous features, and toys that are likely to make both pros and novices happy.

Logic's GarageBand DNA is evident throughout the app, even down to the representative instrument icons at the head of each track. GarageBand fans will delight at the ease of opening songs directly into Logic, as well as the support for the many software instruments bundled with GarageBand. Loops are critical to the GarageBand way of working, and Logic now supports all loop libraries available in Apple Loops format, opening Logic Pro to worlds of musical content right out of the gate.

Logic overload. There are all sorts of welcome enhancements to Logic's basic working procedures, including recallable channel-strip settings that allow you to save the state of any mixer channel and load it into any other channel—useful for pro mixing work. Logic has tons

of presets, from instrument-specific equalization to mastering compression and limiting. It even has a keycaps musical keyboard for playing notes and chords (as well as velocity and transposition) without an external MIDI keyboard.

Logic's new effects range from the useful to the bizarre. Logic's Guitar Amp is touted as a great tube-amp emulator, but we found it somewhat skimpy-



While many may find the distorted tones of Logic Pro 7's Guitar Amp a nice addition, we prefer the amp emulators from IK Multimedia and Native Instruments.

sounding compared to IK Multimedia's AmpliTube Live (Nov/03, p46) and Native Instruments' Guitar Rig (Nov/04, p40). On the other hand, the fascinating Match EQ effect, which analyzes equalization

characteristics of one audio track and applies those tonal qualities to another track, is uniquely useful for multitrack mixing of instruments recorded in different studios or with different microphones. Ashley Simpson wannabes will appreciate Pitch Correction, designed to bring out-of-pitch singers into the non-hurl zone of proper pitch. Ring Shifter is a metallic monster that combines ring modulation with frequency shifting, perfect for converting a human voice to a menacing Zorrox robot or swirling analog-style phase shifter.

And then there's the spanking-fresh synthesis section, with the awesomely potent Sculpture physical-modeling synth, capable of sublimely luscious plucked strings, horns, and skins; the way-cool Ultrabeat percussion module, perfect for crafting a EuroDance hit; and the EFM1 synth, great for '80s electronic vibes. These features, combined with the vast array of other synths, samplers, delays, filters, and effects in Logic, provide every essential sound-creation tool you'll ever need—if not actually want.

We found the Apple Audio Units plug-in validation that runs at launch a little strange—some of the plug-ins it tagged as problematic worked fine, while others passed validation, only to later crash our Mac. And sadly, Logic doesn't support VST plug-ins.

Logic Pro still requires serious effort to learn, and the interface still needs some tweaking, especially given the depth and sheer number of creative goodies. To make matters worse, the voluminous documentation lacks diagrams and clear graphics.

The bottom line. There's a lot to love in Logic Pro, and anyone looking for maximum bang for the buck will be whistling a happy ditty in no time—though learning to produce the same ditty using this app will take a little longer.—David Biedny



COMPANY: Apple
CONTACT: 800-795-1000 or
408-996-1010, www.apple.com
PRICE: \$999, \$299 upgrade

REQUIREMENTS: G4 or faster, Mac
OS 10.3 or later, 512MB RAM, 4GB
hard disk space

GOOD NEWS: Amazing range of tools. Great
sound quality. Distributed audio processing.
BAD NEWS: Guitar Amp is not as cool as we'd
expect. Documentation needs more visuals.

MacAddict RATED

GREAT

EOS 20D

NIMBLE CAMERA

Still haven't switched from a film SLR camera to a digital SLR? Once you see the images from Canon's 8.2-megapixel EOS 20D, you might finally change your mind. It's got all the makings of a top-notch SLR for pro photographers and serious hobbyists.

Compact and light enough to tote around without making you feel like you're pumping iron, the 20D has a sturdy magnesium body with a matte-black finish, nicely accented by slip-proof leather-like material on the grip side. A built-in pop-up flash provides excellent wide-angle coverage, automatically adjusting its intensity for well-balanced exposures; the 20D also includes both a hot shoe and a PC flash terminal for more-powerful lighting options.

Although the power switch is awkwardly located at the bottom of the camera back, the other controls are well positioned; just read the quick-start

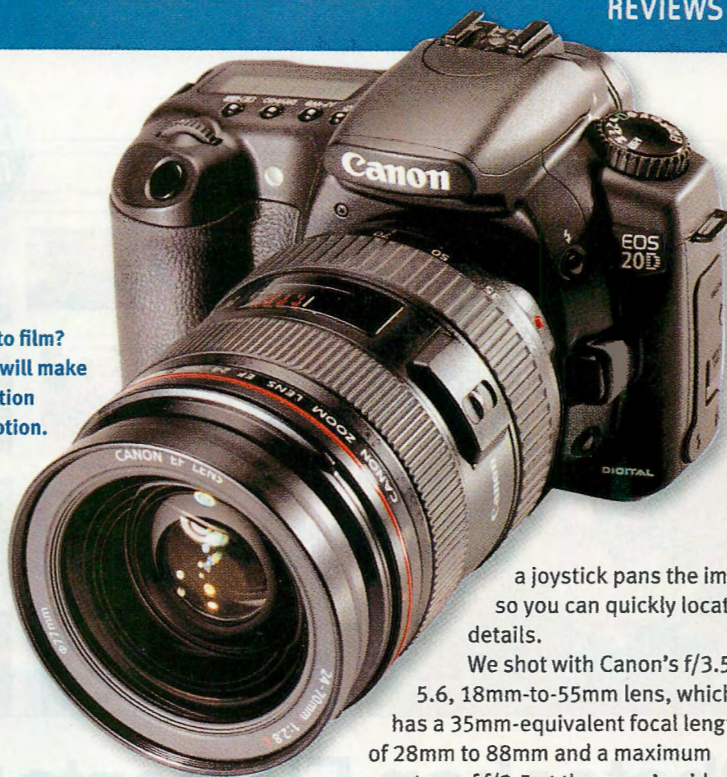
How's 1/8,000th of a second for a top shutter speed?

guide and start shooting. For beginners, Canon has included a handful of mode settings: portrait, landscape, close-ups, action, and night portrait with flash. It also provides aperture and shutter priority modes, full manual exposure, and a plethora of professional features for the experienced photographer.

You'll need high-capacity memory cards (not included) to store JPEG images as big as 3.6MB each or RAW ones at 8.7MB (expanded file sizes are 23.4MB)—but you don't have to shoot at 8.2 megapixels; both 4- and 2-megapixel resolutions are available.

Speedy SLR. Compared to other digital SLR cameras in its class, the 20D is one of the fastest. You can switch it on and take your first shot in a quarter of a second, and there's no noticeable delay between your press of the shutter release and the camera's creation of the exposure. The 20D comes to life from

Devoted to film?
This SLR will make
you question
your devotion.



a joystick pans the image so you can quickly locate details.

We shot with Canon's f/3.5–5.6, 18mm-to-55mm lens, which has a 35mm-equivalent focal length of 28mm to 88mm and a maximum aperture of f/3.5 at the zoom's widest field of view, shifting down to f/5.6 at full telephoto (a kit including this lens with the 20D is available). Picture quality was extraordinary, with great color fidelity, wide dynamic range (good details in both shadow and highlight areas), and much less noise than we expected when we incrementally upped the ISO through the camera's range of 100 to 3,200 in low-light conditions.

The camera's continuous shooting mode impressed us. Using a Sandisk Ultra II CompactFlash card, we fired off 35 highest-resolution exposures in 7 seconds—that's 5 frames per second. The 20D then took 14 seconds to clear the frame buffer, during which time our shots slowed to 1 per second before another 35-shot sequence started. The camera also excelled at tracking moving images when set to continuous focus, something few digicams do well. And if you're serious about action, how's 1/8,000th of a second for a top shutter speed?

The bottom line. The 20D's image quality should be enough to make you forget about 35mm film. The Nikon D70 (Jul/04, p50) is still our favorite because of its high quality and lower price, but if you have the extra cash, check out the 20D.—Arthur Bleich

its power-saving sleep mode almost instantly and plays back images quickly.

A large multifunction control dial on the back of the camera lets you see the exposure values change on a lighted scale underneath the image in the viewfinder. When you review photos you've just shot, one button zooms in on the picture, another zooms out, and



Performing this type of zoom with a low-megapixel camera would result in pixels the size of roof tiles. With the EOS 20D, it's all good.



COMPANY: Canon
CONTACT: 800-652-2666,
www.canonusa.com

PRICE: \$1,499 (Set; body only), \$1,599 (Outfit;
includes EF-S 18mm to 55mm f/3.5–f/5.6 lens)
REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 8.6 or later, USB

GOOD NEWS: Excellent ergonomics. Long battery life.
Fast. Superb images.
BAD NEWS: No memory card or AC adapter supplied.
Large file sizes at 8.2 megapixels.

MacAddict RATED
●●●●●
AWESOME



Photoshop Elements 3.0's File Browser offers new tools to manage your images.

entirely eliminate the need for another media organizer because it doesn't allow you to catalog photos—even though the Windows edition of Elements *does* provide management features such as cataloging archived photos. If you're a devotee of iPhoto—which Adobe assumes you are—that's fine; you can easily configure iPhoto to make Elements its default photo editor. But if you prefer to have more control over your photo catalog than iPhoto permits, the Mac version of Photoshop Elements 3.0 will disappoint.

Given the overall power of Elements, the lack of a photo catalog is a relatively minor shortcoming—we otherwise appreciated the program's streamlined workflow. The one-click Smart Fix is a surprisingly reliable tool for photos that need minor contrast, lighting, color, and/or sharpening adjustments. We also appreciate the new Quick Fix mode, which simplifies image editing by adding sliders and one-click automatic-fix buttons for common photographic adjustments. If the automatic adjustments don't suit your needs, it's

easy to customize the effects using sliders.

For more advanced users—or simply for when you have more time—the Standard Edit mode offers the degree of tweakability you'd expect from a program that bears the Photoshop name, along with customized how-tos to guide you. Particularly noteworthy are the Healing Brush and the new Spot Healing Brush,

which function like smart Clone Stamp tools, preserving the texture and shading of the original pixels while removing distractions. Support for RAW data formats and 16-bit color are excellent additions for more advanced photographers.

The bottom line. Not only is Elements a great tool for most users, it's one you won't soon outgrow.—Michael Shapiro

Photoshop Elements 3.0

POWERFUL, INEXPENSIVE IMAGE EDITOR

For image-editing beginners and amateurs, Adobe Photoshop Elements 3.0 is a significant upgrade that includes many improvements Adobe unveiled in Photoshop CS—and all at a much affordable price than the \$649 CS version. Of course, Elements is no substitute for Photoshop CS—Element's missing or relatively restricted tools will hamper advanced users. But for everyone who uses a digital camera for personal photos—and that's a whole lot of folks—Elements is plenty powerful and easy to use.

Elements still lacks CMYK file support, and it doesn't have Photoshop CS's range of color-management options, which means it won't satisfy most publishing professionals. However, Elements is designed with the amateur photographer in mind. For example, the improved, user-customizable File Browser allows you to browse thumbnail previews and perform basic actions

such as rotation. You can resize every File Browser window, as well as permanently change the order of

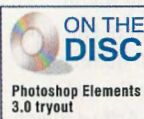
your thumbnails by simply dragging the images around. You can check out image previews without opening the files and even customize print layouts. A new Flag feature allows you to mark specific images for batch processing



Element's Quick Fix mode offers adjustment sliders for easily making corrections.

or later viewing. Also new is the option for adding or editing a wide variety of metadata that will remain embedded in the photo file, such as titles, captions, credits, and the like, all without opening the files. With the improved File Browser features, Elements 3.0 behaves like two applications in one—both media organizer and image editor.

Almost all-in-one. Elements doesn't



COMPANY: Adobe
CONTACT: 800-833-6687, www.adobe.com
PRICE: \$89.99 CD-ROM version, \$79.99 download version, \$69.99 upgrade

REQUIREMENTS: G3 or faster, Mac OS 10.2.8 or later, 256MB RAM, 200MB hard disk space, 1,024-by-768-pixel display or greater

GOOD NEWS: Lots of File Browser options. Smart Fix makes reliable corrections.
BAD NEWS: No CMYK support. Limited range of color-management and catalog tools.

MacAddict RATED
●●●●●
GREAT

Coolpix 8400

ACCURATE BUT SLUGGISH CAMERA

The numeral 8 is fast becoming the megapixel holy grail for cameras. Most companies have an 8-megapixel prosumer camera in their arsenal, but Nikon offers several. The Coolpix 8400 is its latest. Based on the 5-megapixel Coolpix 5400 (which earned first place in the prosumer camera category in our "Digital Camera Shoot-Out," Dec/03, p22), the 8400 may look similar in body style but has quite a few differences. The one we weren't expecting was its lackadaisical performance. On the plus side, though, the end results were nothing to sneeze at.

Specs. The 8400 is for photographers who want a wide-angle lens for shooting subjects such as architecture, landscapes, and room interiors; the camera has a 24mm-to-85mm-equivalent, 3.5x optical zoom lens (f/2.6 to f/4.9). It features auto and manual exposure modes; 15 scene modes; RAW, TIFF, and four JPEG capture modes; ISO range of 50 to 400; fine-tunable white-balance settings; movie mode; built-in flash; hot shoe; and USB 2.0. It supports Compact Flash Type I, II, and MicroDrive cards, but strangely doesn't ship with media. It does ship with a rechargeable battery (which offers good life), a charger, Nikon's new PictureProject software, and the usual host of cables and whatnot.



The 8400's wide-angle lens allowed us to capture more of this building at close range rather than having to scoot back, back, back into the parking lot.



We caught some interesting "frozen water" shots using a fast shutter speed in shutter-priority mode.



Even with mixed lighting (two tungstens and sunlight from a window), the 8400's Auto white balance kept colors accurate.

Its pics look good. Wish we could say the same for its performance.

Like the 5400, the 8400 has a substantial rubberized grip. Unlike the 5400, the 8400 has an electronic viewfinder and a bigger 1.8-inch LCD that flips out and swivels to shoot from almost any angle. It also features a 10x playback zoom, which allowed us to scrutinize a photo's details, sparing us from downloading trash-bound images. The button controls and menu navigation are straightforward, and we liked the My Menu feature, which let us choose which controls we could access quickly in the menu.

Love and hate. We loved the images. The 8400 produced beautiful exposures and handled tricky lighting conditions well. It also gave us accurate color, even in Auto mode. The images were

sharp, with great tonal depth, and the wide-angle lens let us *really* see the big picture.

But we hate the 8400's sluggishness. The buffer is too small to handle high-res 8-megapixel images coming down the pipe. In continuous mode, our rapid fire came to a screeching halt after five shots. With RAW and TIFF capture, the wait times were painful. On average, we ended up locked out of the camera, staring at an hourglass icon, for about 9 seconds after shooting RAW and 16 seconds after capturing a TIFF—and we're using a speedy Ultra II CF card! What's worse, we assumed that when the hourglass disappeared from the LCD, the camera was done writing the image. Wrong. In RAW mode, the 8400

lambasted us with warning messages when we switched exposure modes or turned it off. To make matters worse, many of our images tended to display noise when we zoomed in on details.

The bottom line. While we liked the Coolpix 8400's potential, until Nikon works its D70 buffer magic into this model, we'll stick with the 8-megapixel competition.

—Kris Fong

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SMANTHA BERG



COMPANY: Nikon
CONTACT: 800-645-6687,
www.nikonusa.com
PRICE: \$899.95

REQUIREMENTS: Power Mac,
Mac OS 9.2.x or later, USB port; Mac
OS 10.1.5 or later required for Nikon
PictureProject software

GOOD NEWS: Accurate color. Awesome exposure handling. Has a wider-angle lens than most non-SLR cameras.
BAD NEWS: Small buffer means long image-writing wait times. Write-time indicator is not accurate. Some noise in images.

MacAddict RATED
●●●●●
SOLID

Phaser 7750DN

WORKHORSE COLOR LASER PRINTER

Xerox's Phaser 7750DN is one behemoth of a color laser printer—it's 25.4 inches wide, 19.4 inches tall, 28.1 inches deep, and weighs a hefty 194 pounds. Its stoutness seems fitting for the type of performance the printer puts in—the 7750DN is a fast, solid workhorse that produces nice-looking images and text.

The 7750DN can print on a vast array of media, from 5.5-by-8.5-inch statement paper to 11-by-17-inch tabloid and 12-by-18-inch tabloid extra. It also supports paper weights from 18-pound plain-paper bond to 110-pound index-card stock. For transparencies, Xerox recommends using only Phaser 45-Series Premium Transparency Film. The 7750DN has two paper trays; one holds 150 pages, the other holds 500.

Once you and a couple of your burly friends find a home for the printer (remember to bend at the knees), setup takes about 30 minutes. Xerox clearly marks all the foam shipping protectors in the 7750DN with big red numbered tags,



Big color comin' at ya.

No more trips to the service bureau or copy-shop print fees.

tied to the spacers. It also labels the cyan, magenta, yellow, and black toner cartridges, which slip into the printer easily. You can connect the 7750DN to a network using its built-in Ethernet port, or you can connect it directly to your Mac using its USB 2.0 port.

Color management. The 7750's drivers offer 42 different color profiles—including SWOP, Press Match, Euroscale, SNAP Press, and Japan Color—as well as Pantone color matching. You can also create custom color profiles with the included PhaserMatch and PhaserCal color-management and -calibration software. PhaserMatch analyzes a scan

of a sheet of color swatches produced on another printing device, such as a printing press, to adjust the 7750DN's settings so they match that device. PhaserCal calibrates the 7750DN to make sure you get consistent color results over time. You can calibrate the 7750DN with a spectrophotometer—a device that takes light-intensity readings from color swatches. Or you can do it visually, a process that involves printing several built-in calibration sheets, eyeballing the sheets to pick the best color blending, and then entering your settings in the printer's front panel. As you might guess, the spectrophotometer gives you the most accurate results—for color-critical work, you must get one. (You can also use the spectrophotometer to create custom color profiles, but you'll need third-party software to do that.)

Press print. The 7750DN is rated at 35 pages per minute for both color and black-and-white documents. Of course, you have to print the most basic

document to reach that rated speed, but the 7750DN is in fact impressively fast. Printing a 50-page document took about 96 seconds, which works out to about 30 pages per minute—pretty darn close to that rating. An 11MB color Photoshop file took about 67 seconds, while a 15-page PowerPoint presentation took a minute.

Our images looked great for the most part, with sharp text quality and excellent color saturation in our presentation on both paper and transparencies. The photo prints didn't quite match dye-sublimation or inkjet quality, however—colors were vibrant and lively, but skin tones lacked smoothness and shadow detail was muddled or nonexistent.

The bottom line. If your livelihood involves color printing, don't let the 7750DN's price scare you. It'll immediately pay for itself—no more time-wasting trips to the service bureau or costly copy-shop printing fees.—*Roman Loyola*



COMPANY: Xerox
CONTACT: 877-362-6567,
www.xerox.com
PRICE: \$6,799

REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 9.x or
10.1 or later

GOOD NEWS: Fast. Color-calibration software maintains color accuracy. Easy to use.
BAD NEWS: Huge. Mediocre photo quality.

MacAddict RATED
●●●●●
GREAT

GeForce 6800 Ultra DDL

BLAZINGLY BRAVNY GRAPHICS CARD

Only available from Apple, nVidia's GeForce 6800 Ultra DDL is one of two graphics cards that can power Apple's 30-inch Cinema HD Display (Feb/05, p35). It's available as an upgrade option in a new Power Mac G5 and as a stand-alone card—so we wondered, how much of a performance boost does the 6800 Ultra offer compared to the 128MB ATI Radeon 9600 XT that comes stock in the Dual 2.5GHz Power Mac G5 (Nov/04, p38)?

We ran Unreal Tournament 2004's Flyby benchmark at a range of screen resolutions. The results show a significant performance improvement, especially at high resolutions. At 2,048 by 1,280 pixels, the 6800 Ultra provided more than double the frame rate of the 9600 XT. At 1,600 by

1,200, the 6800 Ultra was nearly 50 percent faster. The 9600 XT caught up at lower resolutions, but the 6800 Ultra was still 4 percent faster at 1,024 by 768, 5 percent faster at 800 by 600, and 6 percent speedier at 640 by 480.

CPU influence. We also ran an Unreal Tournament 2004 Botmatch test simulating gameplay—in this case the Mac's CPUs heavily influenced the results. Across all of the tested resolutions, the 6800 Ultra was only 2 to 4 frames per second faster than the 9600 XT—less than 5 percent. The dual 2.5GHz CPUs leveled the playing field.

The minimum requirement for the

Be prepared to lose a PCI slot when you install this hulking beast.

6800 Ultra is a Power Mac G5—anything less, and the Mac won't be able to take full advantage of the card's capabilities. Furthermore, the 6800 Ultra's humongous heat sink covers the adjacent expansion slot, so you're essentially devoting two slots to this card. One last thing: Install the latest Mac OS X revision (10.3.7 at press time), because it has driver tweaks that improve graphics performance.

The bottom line. The 6800 Ultra's main purpose is to support the 30-inch Display, and it performs that job admirably. It can also provide a substantial improvement with graphics and video apps. If you're an avid gamer, though, you might need to upgrade your Mac first.—Roman Loyola



COMPANY: nVidia

CONTACT: 408-486-2000,

www.nvidia.com

PRICE: \$599

REQUIREMENTS: Power Mac G5,

Mac OS 10.3.5 or later

GOOD NEWS: Excellent performance.

BAD NEWS: Heat sink blocks adjacent PCI-X slot.

MacAddict RATED



GREAT

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Photo to Movie™ incorporates a powerful version of the "Ken Burns effect" to bring photos alive with motion. Photo to Movie also lets you add music tracks, voice narration, and a variety of slide-to-slide transitions. Exported movies can be imported to iMovie™, burned to DVD, posted on the Web, and even emailed.

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Mac360.com

"I've gotten more favorable comments on my project than anything I've done to date."

Gregg, Photo to Movie user



June 2003 / Previous version

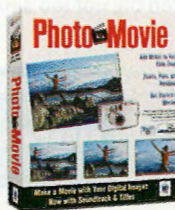


Photo to Movie

www.phototomovie.com

LQ GRAPHICS
IMAGING SOFTWARE



The A85 fits comfortably in your hands.

Direct printing to Canon Direct and PictBridge compatible printers is accomplished with a press of a single button. Although the same button can also trigger file-sharing functions, Mac users are out of luck—that feature works in Windows only.

Image quality. In both indoor and outdoor shooting, the A85 captures impressive images with accurate color and sharp detail. Noise is noticeable only when shooting in low-light situations. The special shooting modes provide decent automatic white-balance adjustments (you can also set the white balance manually). Only foliage mode had an adverse effect on contrast and colors, pumping them up to the point that our images lost their natural look.

The A85 is also speedy. It takes only two seconds to power up and be ready for the first shot. Shutter lag in most situations was only a fraction of a second, and the wait from shot to shot was about four seconds (it shrank to two when we turned off the flash). In continuous-shooting mode, the number of consecutive rapid-fire shots varied—at maximum resolution the A85 fired seven rapid shots before slowing down to a shot every 1.5 seconds; it managed

PowerShot A85

ROBUST CAMERA

If you're ready to jump onto the 4-megapixel bandwagon, nothing screams "hop aboard!" louder than Canon's PowerShot A85. It's a great full-featured point-and-shoot camera that provides pleasing images and performs like a BMW M3: speedily and reliably.

At the heart of the A85 is a 4-megapixel CCD capable of taking images at a maximum of 2,272 by 1,704 pixels and a 5.4-to-16.2mm lens with 3x optical, 3.6x digital, and 11x combined zoom. The A85 has manual and autofocus modes, with the latter complemented by an AF-assist beam and a proprietary 9-point AiAF (Artificial Intelligent Auto-Focus) system that's useful when subjects are off-center. The numerous shooting modes range from your standard fare (landscape, macro, movie, etc.) to specialized selections for snow, foliage, beach, fireworks, indoor, and underwater scenes. Seasoned photogs requiring more control can tweak settings for white balance, light metering, flash output, and ISO speed (50, 100, 200, and 400).

On the back of the A85 is a vivid 1.8-inch color LCD that looks great, although it doesn't pull out of the camera body and swivel, as does the display on the PowerShot A95 (\$399). Camera controls are intuitive and laid out for easy access.



The A85's foliage mode took our original image (left) and pumped up the colors, which resulted in a subtly unnatural look (right).



Sans batteries and CompactFlash card (four AA alkaline batteries and a 32MB Type I CF card are included), the A85 hits the scales at a paltry seven ounces. And at 4x2.5x1.2 inches in size, the A85 is neither too big nor too small—it feels just right.

12 rapid shots at 1,600-by-1,200 pixels and 30 at 1,024-by-768.

The bottom line. For its user-friendly features, great image quality, and speedy performance, the PowerShot A85 is a complete entry-level package that we highly recommend.—*Gil Loyola*



COMPANY: Canon
CONTACT: 800-652-2666,
www.canonusa.com
PRICE: \$299.99

REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 9.0 or later, Mac OS 10.1.5 or later

GOOD NEWS: Multiple shooting modes. Feels good in your hands. Excellent image quality. Fast.
BAD NEWS: Direct file sharing isn't Mac-compatible.

MacAddict RATED
●●●●●
AWESOME

1.8GHz Power Mac G5

BUDGET G5 TOWER

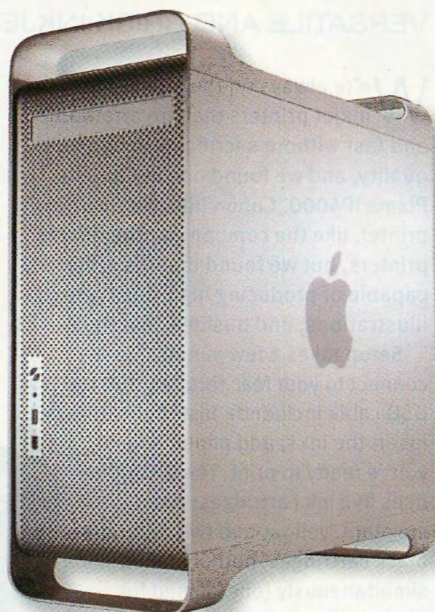
There's a new single-processor 1.8GHz Power Mac G5 in town, adding an affordable (\$1,499) option to the Power Mac line. But based on our testing, the new Power Mac is essentially an iMac G5 in a tower case—it doesn't provide the performance boost we're used to seeing when moving from the iMac to the Power Mac family.

Take a look at the specs at the bottom of this page. Ring a bell? They're almost exactly the same as those of the 20-inch iMac G5 (Dec/04, p38), except that the iMac comes with a 160GB Serial ATA hard drive and a built-in 20-inch LCD. The two Macs also use the same system controller, which Apple calls U3 Lite; the dual-processor Power Macs use a U3 Heavy controller. There are important differences, however: You get three PCI (not PCI-X) expansion slots in the Power Mac, while the iMac has none; and the Power Mac accepts up to 4GB of RAM versus the iMac G5's 2GB.

The latest Power Mac isn't just the previous 1.8GHz Power Mac G5 (Nov/03, p44) pulling a phoenix act—the previous system with the same name had a 900MHz frontside bus (this new machine is the only Power Mac whose frontside bus runs at less than half the processor speed), 512MB of RAM, 160GB Serial ATA hard drive, and a \$2,399 price tag.

Confused yet? In simple terms, the current 1.8GHz Power Mac G5 is not like the old 1.8GHz Power Mac G5, is a lot like the 20-inch iMac G5, and "I Don't Know" plays third base.

As fast as... Given its specs, you might guess that the 1.8GHz Power Mac G5 would perform similarly to the 20-inch iMac G5. To find out, we ran the same tests we used for our iMac G5 review, and found that expectation to be mostly true. The two Macs ran neck and neck when



The single guy in a family of coupled Macs.

exporting a PDF from Adobe InDesign (21 seconds), running a Photoshop Action on a 25MB file (3 minutes, 30 seconds), saving Photoshop files (19 seconds for a 100MB file, 8 seconds for a 50MB file) or using the Flyby (78 fps) or Botmatch (37 fps) tests in Unreal Tournament 2003. The Power Mac outperformed the iMac G5 in two tasks: duplicating a 2GB file (23 percent faster), and ripping a CD in iTunes (21 percent faster).

The bottom line. If the 1.8GHz Power Mac G5 is so much like the iMac G5, why buy it? Well, it's an affordable upgrade for owners of older-generation Mac towers who might already own a display they want to keep, and hence don't want a built-in one. Also, the Power Mac G5 lets you do three things you can't do with an iMac G5: move up to 4GB of RAM, add a second internal hard drive, and install PCI cards. But if you're a pro user, opt for the oomph of one of the dual-processor Power Macs.—Roman Loyola

PHOTOGRAPH BY SAMANTHA BERG

COMPANY: Apple
CONTACT: 800-795-1000 or 408-996-1010, www.apple.com
PRICE: \$1,499

SPECIFICATIONS: Single 1.8GHz PowerPC G5, 512K L2 cache, 600MHz frontside bus, 256MB DDR400 SDRAM, 64MB nVidia GeForce FX 5200 Ultra, 80GB Serial ATA hard drive, SuperDrive

GOOD NEWS: Finally, an affordable Power Mac G5. Quiet. Allows you to add expansion cards and a second internal drive.

BAD NEWS: Low RAM with stock model. No PCI-X slots. Slower frontside bus than dual-processor Power Mac G5s.

MacAddict RATED
SOLID

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(Macworld, Dec 2003)

Macworld
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★★★★★/8.8

MacUser
★★★★★

MACFORMAT
★★★★★

MacFormat
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5GB USB 2.0 Pocket Hard Drive

PUCKISH HARD DRIVE

Seagate's 5GB USB 2.0 Pocket Hard Drive lets us relegate our handful of USB flash drives to the desk drawer. The Pocket combines good speed, portability, and slick design in a little puckish package.

The Pocket measures about three inches in diameter, and is actually two pieces—the black drive rotates within the silver shell to reveal a retractable USB cable. Once you plug the Pocket into a USB 2.0 port, the center lights up to tell you it's working.

You can store a whole lot of files in 5GB (a 2.5GB version is available for \$139). The speed is quite nice—a 2GB file took a little over seven minutes to copy using USB 2.0. That's five minutes faster than Verbatim's 2.1GB Store 'n' Go (Feb/05, p42). Compared to a 4.7GB DVD+RW disc in a 1.8GHz Power Mac G5's SuperDrive, the Pocket was 90 seconds faster when copying a 2GB file in the Finder.

The bottom line. Make room in your pocket for the Pocket. We like its combination of speed, size, and capacity. —Roman Loyola



The NHL lockout has forced hockey pucks to earn their living as portable hard drives.

COMPANY: Seagate **PRICE:** \$199
CONTACT: 831-438-6550, www.seagate.com
REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 9.2.2 or later, USB port

GOOD NEWS: Small and stylish. No separate power supply needed. Retractable USB cord.

BAD NEWS: Bundled utilities are Windows-only.



Pixma iP4000

VERSATILE AND BRISK INKJET PRINTER

We're always on the lookout for inkjet printers that are affordable and fast without sacrificing image quality, and we found one in Canon's Pixma iP4000. Canon bills it as a photo printer, like the company's other Pixma printers, but we found that it's quite capable of producing high-quality text, illustrations, and business graphics.

Setup takes a few minutes; just connect to your Mac through USB (no USB cable included), install the drivers, insert the inks, add paper, and you're ready to print. The iP4000 uses five ink cartridges: cyan, magenta, yellow, and two different black cartridges, both installed simultaneously (one is used for photos, the other for everything else). If you have a PictBridge-compatible digital camera, you can connect it to the iP4000 for direct printing, but the printer doesn't have any slots for your camera's memory cards.

The iP4000 prints on letter, legal, 4-by-6-inch and 5-by-7-inch paper, as well as number 10 envelopes. If you're printing photos, you can use the iP4000's borderless printing for edge-to-edge images on all sizes of paper. The iP4000 can also duplex (print on both sides of a sheet of paper); since it prints on one side and then rearranges the paper to print on the other, the duplex feature takes a considerable amount of time—more on that later.

Performance. We liked the iP4000's overall speed; it's not the fastest we've seen, but it's still impressive. A 50-page black-and-white Word document took about 7 minutes and 30 seconds (about 6 pages per minute), while a 15-page color PowerPoint presentation took 26 minutes (1.73 ppm), both at best quality.

A borderless 4-by-6-inch color photo took 47 seconds.

The iP4000 slows down considerably in duplex mode—the same 50-page black-and-white document took almost 24 minutes to print. You'd actually do better if you printed the odd pages in single-side mode, fed the document back into the printer, and then printed the even pages. The duplex feature is



Sure, it prints photos, but illustrations and text aren't a problem either.

convenient for unattended printing, however.

The print quality is much better than we expected from a printer in this price range. Photo color was consistent, though we've seen better range in printers such as the Pixma iP9900 (Nov/04, p46). Text is quite strong, even on plain paper, and our bar charts, drawings, and color illustrations showed no color shifting.

The bottom line. You get a whole lot of printer for \$149.99—good photos, great text, double-sided prints, and good speed. The iP4000's an excellent deal at that price. —Roman Loyola

COMPANY: Canon
CONTACT: 800-652-2666, www.canon.com
PRICE: \$149.99

REQUIREMENTS: USB-equipped Mac, Mac OS 8.6 to 9.x or 10.2.1 or later

GOOD NEWS: Fast. Good image quality. Duplex support.
BAD NEWS: No memory-card slots. Duplex prints take a long time.





Battlefield 1942: Secret Weapons of WWII

OUTLANDISH SHOOTER

Battlefield 1942: Secret Weapons of World War II sprinkles a bit of fantasy into the Axis-versus-Allies theme of the original Battlefield 1942 (Oct/04, p56). In this BF42 expansion pack (you need the original game to play it), you are armed with bigger, better, faster weapons that are loosely inspired by real WWII prototypes.

Foot soldiers can now strap on a German rocket pack and make airborne jumps around the map, guns a-bla-zin' all the while. There are a handful of new tanks too, such as a German model with anti-aircraft guns, a lumbering American super tank that's about twice the usual size (with a gun to match), or a souped-up Sherman that can unleash a torrent of missiles from a launcher perched atop its turret. There's also a new armored (and armed) car that floats, and spiffy new aircraft that include a C-47 troop transport for spawning and parachuting soldiers and a couple of greased lightning jets good for air-to-air or air-to-ground fighting. All cool stuff—but like BF42's planes, the new planes are still challenging to fly using keyboard or mouse controls. Try as we might, we often crashed the faster planes while attacking ground targets, or accidentally flew them out of the map's bounds.

They're just toys. The new weapons definitely add spice, but they're mostly mere amusement rather than factors that change BF42's game play—a bigger

tank still behaves like a tank, and a faster plane still behaves like a plane. Only the rocket pack and the troop transport give you new strategic options, as they let you quickly project force behind enemy lines—something you couldn't do in the original.

In addition to the new vehicles, Secret Weapons has eight new maps, new conventional guns, and throwing knives. But BF42's weaknesses are still lurking around—namely questionable AI (why

TIP

CHEATS In single player, press ~ and type the following:

aiCheats.code Tobias.Karlsson
(invincibility)

aiCheats.code Jonathan.Gustavsson
(kill enemy bots)

aiCheats.code WalkingIsWayTooTiresome
(new spawn location)

don't soldiers ever run from grenades?), occasional choppy framerates on even top-tier Macs, and lapses in the action when you respawn and have to make your way back to the fighting.

The bottom line. Secret Weapons adds some fun color and variety to an already great game. After playing Secret Weapons, we went back to the original version for a while, and it just wasn't the same without the rocket pack and the monster tanks.—*Helmut Kobler*

COMPANY: Aspyr

CONTACT: 888-212-7797,
www.aspyr.com

PRICE: \$29.99

REQUIREMENTS: Original Battlefield 1942 game, Mac OS 10.2.8 or later, 867MHz G4 or faster, 256MB RAM, 1.6GB disk space, 32MB ATI Radeon 7500/nVidia GeForce 2 graphics card or better

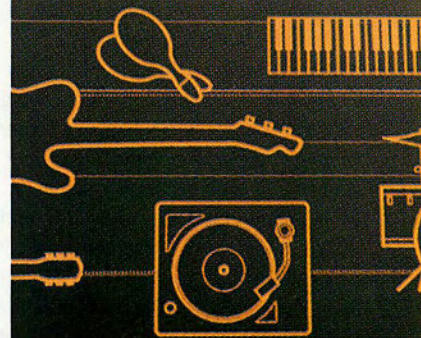
GOOD NEWS: Several new tanks, planes, cars, and boats. Eight new maps.

BAD NEWS: Planes are hard to fly. Occasionally dumb artificial intelligence.

MacAddict RATED
●●●●●
GREAT

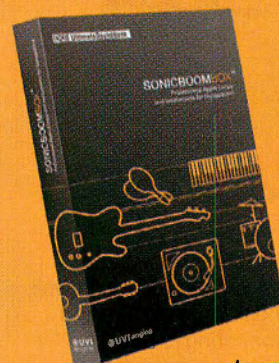
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Gallery Xtreme 2010

LUSTROUS LCD DISPLAY

Formac's Gallery Xtreme 2010 is a slightly cheaper alternative to Apple's gorgeous 20-inch Cinema Display ([4 widgets] Nov/04, p39)—at \$899, you'll save \$100 and still get image quality suitable for graphics professionals.

Apple's Cinema Display is minimalist chic, with an anodized aluminum casing that barely boards the display's screen. The 2010, on the other hand, smacks of Art Deco flair, with a shiny black plastic bezel that extends 1.57 inches around the top, left, and right of the screen, and 1.97 inches at the bottom. Then there's the clear plastic that surrounds the black plastic and extends to the holes in the display's feet.

The other obvious difference between the 2010 and the Cinema Display is their

aspect ratios. The 2010 has a 4:3 ratio, while the Cinema Display has a widescreen 16:10 ratio—the 2010 has more desktop space vertically, while the Cinema Display has more horizontal space.

Image quality. The overall color consistency of the 2010 is quite good. Text looked crisp and clean, and color gradations and flesh tones were consistent. It's also plenty bright, rated at 300 cd/m2 (candelas per meter squared)—to our eyes, it seemed a bit brighter than the Cinema Display, which is rated at 250 cd/m2. We did notice a shimmer effect at certain brightness settings, but it stopped once we moved a notch up or down in brightness. A Formac representative attributed the problem to



The 2010 matches our patent-leather mouse pad.

the nVidia GeForce FX 5200 Ultra card in our dual 2GHz Power Mac G5.

The bottom line. We like the 2010—it looks good, and it's an affordable alternative to the Cinema Display. The 19-inch Gallery Xtreme 1900 is also available for \$599. The extra cash in our pockets sure feels good.—Roman Loyola

COMPANY: Formac

CONTACT: 877-436-7622,
www.formac.com

PRICE: \$899

REQUIREMENTS: MacOS 9.2.2 or later, Mac OS 10.1.3 or later, graphics card with ADC or DVI interface

GOOD NEWS: Stylish. Very bright. Good colors.

BAD NEWS: No FireWire ports. Oversized bezel.

MacAddict RATED

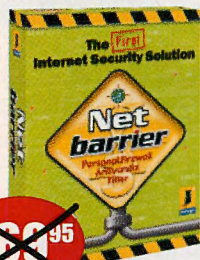


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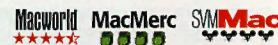
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"Personal Antispam X3 outperformed other third party application".
MacMerc.com October 2004



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SoundDock

BOOMING IPOD SPEAKER

Bose's SoundDock is yet another entry in the iPod speaker stand market. It's a pricier choice than Altec Lansing's inMotion iM3 (Feb/05, p49), but it boasts bigger sound and better overall audio quality.

The iPod sits regally in a dock in front of the SoundDock's 11.9-by-6.7-inch speaker grill, which frames the iPod nicely. Dock adapters are available, so any dockable iPod can sit comfortably. While docked, your iPod battery recharges, but there's no connectivity between the SoundDock and your Mac.

Fill the room. Behind the speaker grill are two 2.5-inch drivers that are too close together for you to discern stereo effects unless you're standing near the



Let your 'Pod be loud and proud.

SoundDock. The speakers are loud and powerful enough to fill a typical living room, den, or bedroom.

The SoundDock offers volume control buttons, but you'll probably prefer to use the remote control, a device the size of a credit card that allows you to adjust volume, fast-forward, rewind, advance

or go back a tune at a time, and turn the SoundDock on and off. The remote functioned flawlessly within the boundaries of our 12-by-12-foot room, and angles posed no problems.

The SoundDock is definitely loud. The sound quality is nowhere near that of a home theater system, but that would be asking a lot from a unit this small. Bass response is

good and can even handle thumping hip-hop—50 Cent's *Wanksta* had plenty of low-end swagger. Midrange sounds lacked warmth, however.

The bottom line. The SoundDock's \$299 price is comparatively steep. But if you want an iPod speaker stand that's louder and sounds better than the rest, it might be worth it.—Roman Loyola

COMPANY: Bose

CONTACT: 800-999-2673,

www.bose.com

PRICE: \$299

REQUIREMENTS: Dockable iPod

GOOD NEWS: Loud. Charges iPod. Good overall sound quality.

BAD NEWS: Can't project stereo effects over a distance. Mids lack warmth. No connectivity with your Mac.

MacAddict RATED



GREAT

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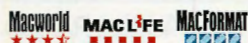
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iChat Encryption ChatBarrier X3



Encrypts iChat instant messaging sessions with unbreakable 512-bit encryption.

"Seamlessly integrated with iChat".
MacLife September 2004



Data Backups Personal Backup X3



Provides a full range of backup, restoration, synchronization, and cloning functions.

"For anyone running their application on a Mac, this solution is an important safety net against lost data".
Security Magazine No. 306



Disk Protection DiskGuard X3



Password protection for hard disks and external storage media.

"The best hard disk protection solution available for Mac OS X".

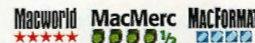


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Great for finding wireless networks anywhere. The world's smallest WiFi hotspot finder.

"...the ultimate keyring accessory".
Macworld November 2004



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Mercury Elite Pro FW800

CONGENIAL FIREWIRE 800 EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE

Hidden inside Other World Computing's Mercury Elite Pro FW800 case is a 400GB, 7,200-rpm Hitachi DeskStar 7K400 with an 8MB cache. We liked the speed of the drive, especially when using FireWire 800.

Connected to our Dual 2.5GHz Power Mac G5 via FireWire 800, the Elite Pro showed sequential 256KB uncached data-transfer speeds of around 50MB and 53MB per second when writing and reading, respectively, according to Xbench (free, www.xbench.com), a popular benchmarking utility. Those numbers don't quite match the 59MBps write and 55MBps read speeds of the Power Mac's internal 160GB Maxtor Serial ATA drive, but they're close. The test results using random reads were also

close: The Elite Pro showed speeds of 24 MBps, versus the Mac's internal drive score of 25 MBps. The internal drive won big in the random write test with speeds of 38 MBps, far outpacing the Elite Pro's 24 MBps. When we duplicated a 2GB file in the Finder, the Elite Pro did the job 7 percent faster than the internal drive.

Clear case. The Elite Pro comes in a clear plastic case with ridges that have a peculiar effect on the Mercury logo gracing the metal internal casing—the result reminded us of a bad drunken-binge tattoo. At least the drive looks cool when it's on, thanks to the blue lights that embellish its facade.

OWC comes through big-time on bundled software goodies. You get Intech SpeedTools Utilities, a bundle that



We're looking for a tattoo-removal shop that specializes in hard drive cases

includes a disk defragger, partition tool, FireWire performance tuner, integrity tester, backup app, benchmark tool, and a tool that maps bad disk sectors. You also get Dantz Retrospect Express for automated backups.

The bottom line. The Elite Pro is a nice drive to supplement your internal drive. Load it up with all the video, songs, and files you can muster—the speedy Elite Pro can handle it.—*Roman Loyola*



COMPANY: Other World Computing

CONTACT: 800-275-4576, www.macsales.com

PRICE: \$479.99 for 400GB

REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 10.2

or later, FireWire 800—or FireWire 400—equipped Mac

GOOD NEWS: Fast. Nice software bundle.

BAD NEWS: Cheesy logo on case. Doesn't perform some tasks as fast as an internal Serial ATA drive.

MacAddict RATED

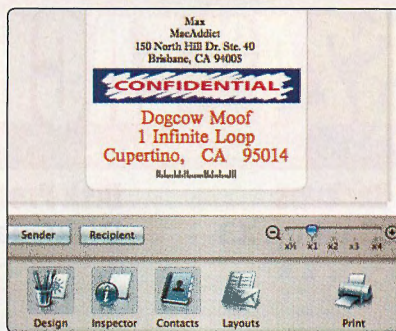


Mail Factory

PRACTICAL LABEL SOFTWARE

BeLight's Mail Factory 1.4 saves us from scrawling addresses on snail mail by providing an easy way to create labels and print on envelopes. If you already have a heavy-duty word-processing app such as Word, you may not need Mail Factory to create basic labels—but if you don't, Mail Factory is an affordable and helpful tool.

Mail Factory opens directly into an Assistant that helps you create your labels or envelopes. There's a vast selection of label formats from manufacturers such as A-One, APLI, Avery, Decadry, Devauzet, DYMO, Formtec, Herma, Hisago, MACO, Pimaco, Siegel, and Xerox. Envelope formats



Grace your envelopes with spiffy, legible addresses.

include U.S., European, and Japanese.

Address assistant. Once you choose your label or envelope, the Assistant guides you through the design process. After choosing your address layout, you can manually enter the address or import it from Apple's Address Book, Entourage, Eudora, FileMaker Pro, MS Excel, Now Contact, vCards, or tab-delimited text files. While you're importing your

addresses, your address book app may warn you about Mail Factory's script trying to access your addresses—viruses often use such a script to get addresses to which they can propagate themselves (we got such a warning in Entourage).

The Assistant creates basic labels and envelopes; you can add special graphics, change the font and alignment, and make corrections once the Assistant is done. You can even add images from your iPhoto library. Mail Factory can also add a USPS PostNet barcode above or below the recipient's address.

The only problem we had with Mail Factory was its lack of flexibility with address fields. You have six lines of text to work with; each line has data fields for name, address, city, etc. For most uses, that's enough—but you can't add more.

The bottom line. For mass mailings—or to replace that chicken scratch you call your handwriting—Mail Factory is a valuable utility.—*Roman Loyola*



COMPANY: BeLight Software

CONTACT: +38-048-7380849, www.belightsoft.com

PRICE: \$38.95 CD version, \$29.95 download

REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS

10.2 or later

GOOD NEWS: Easy to use. Supports a large selection of labels and envelope types.

BAD NEWS: Can't add more lines to an address.

MacAddict RATED



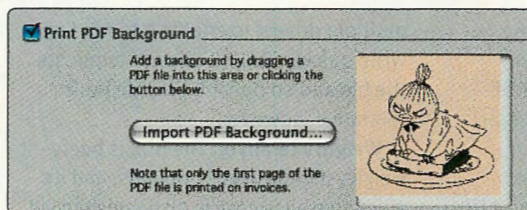
QuickBooks Pro 2005 for Mac

MILDLY IMPROVED ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE

Intuit's QuickBooks Pro 2005 for Mac small-business accounting package adds nifty interface improvements, but lacks earth-shattering additions.

You can now add background images to printed forms—but graphics must be PDF files. You can also now schedule payments in iCal, where your company name appears as a color-coded calendar, and send an encrypted backup to your .Mac iDisk.

Matching menus. Menus now closely match QuickBooks' Windows counterparts, and Mac users can now open files from Windows versions of QuickBooks Basic, Pro, Premier, and Premier Accountant. We opened Windows files successfully, but doing so isn't straightforward—you have to go



You can now add PDF graphics to business forms such as invoices.

to File > Restore > From QuickBooks For Windows.

Other handy new interface enhancements: Opening an invoice for a customer with outstanding expenses or unbilled hours brings up a dialog alerting you to this fact. Using the magnifying glass icon to click on an item in the Pay Bills and Receive Payments

windows lets you see that bill's details.

Payroll, however, is still not seamlessly integrated—clicking the Payroll button brings up the same version of Aatrix's bundled Top Pay (www.aatrix.com) module that appeared in QuickBooks' previous incarnation. Plus,

there's no online-banking component as there is in Intuit's Quicken personal-finance app.

The bottom line. If you need an accounting app and your accountant uses Windows, QuickBooks Pro 2005 is for you. If not, and you're deciding whether to upgrade from an earlier version, skip it.—Narasu Rebbapragada



COMPANY: Intuit
CONTACT: 800-446-8848,
650-944-6000, www.intuit.com
PRICE: \$299.99

REQUIREMENTS: G3 or faster, Mac OS
10.2.8 or later, 128MB RAM, 100MB disk
space, 1,024-by-768-pixel or greater display,
2X or faster CD-ROM

GOOD NEWS: Improved Windows compatibility.
Interface enhancements.
BAD NEWS: Payroll handled by companion app.
No online-banking component.

MacAddict RATED
SOLID

Totem

PERSONAL JOURNAL SOFTWARE

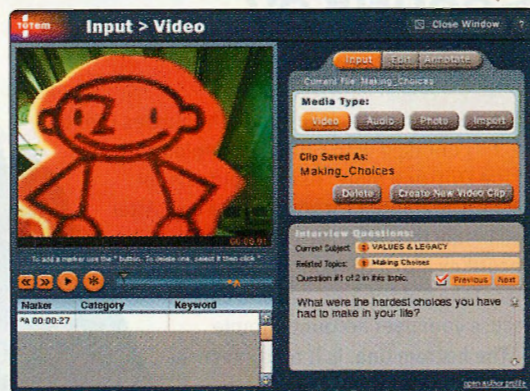
Everyone has a life story to tell; the catch is figuring out how to tell it—and it can get pretty complicated if you decide to record your story digitally. Totem makes storytelling easy by providing a template for the presentation and a series of questions. All you need to do is sit back, press record, and reminisce.

To record video in Totem, you need a USB or FireWire Webcam or a DV camera. We had no problems using Apple's iSight (Sep/03, p54) on our iMac G5. Totem says you can also import QuickTime video, audio, and still images, but our attempts to import a 384KB MOV file that we created in iMovie encountered a "File not supported by Totem" message.

20-plus questions. In creating your autobiography, the first step is to set up an author profile, which contains a

vast array of data, including your birth, relatives, jobs, hobbies, and more. There's even a nifty timeline that tells you all sorts of trivia pertaining to a particular year (remember when gas was \$1.29 a gallon in 1996?).

The next step is to conduct interviews. Totem has 226 questions that you answer, asking everything from, "Tell me what your humor was like?" to "Tell me about the circumstances of your spouse's death." In interview mode, Totem displays a video preview window so you can frame your shot. To answer a question, click Record, and Totem records the video to disk. Totem has basic editing tools for modifying your video, though we sometimes preferred recording the video



Record your life story for future generations.

to tape and editing it in iMovie so we could take advantage of that app's tools. You can export your movies, but you can't burn them directly to a CD or DVD.

The bottom line. It's easy to get caught up in video editing and production instead of actually focusing on the content. Totem's a great way to make sure you spend your time wisely.—Roman Loyola



COMPANY: Totem
CONTACT: 800-732-1676, www.
totem-software.com
PRICE: \$60

REQUIREMENTS: G3 processor
or faster, Mac OS 10.2 or higher,
Webcam or DV camera

GOOD NEWS: Easy to set up and use. Tons of biographical
questions.
BAD NEWS: Can't import some QuickTime movies. No direct
burning to CD or DVD.

MacAddict RATED
SOLID

Bigger Disk Extreme 1TB

HEFTY EXTERNAL FIREWIRE 800 HARD DRIVE

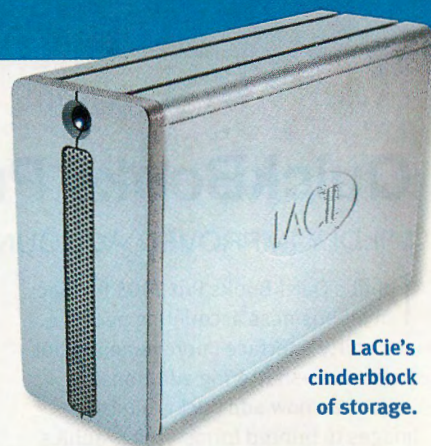
When we first visited LaCie's 1TB Bigger Disk (Aug/04, p55), it simply spanned its four 250GB hard drives—the firmware in the Bigger Disk made the device appear to your Mac as a single 1-terabyte drive. So what makes the Bigger Disk Extreme 1TB *Extreme*? LaCie has added RAID 0, which improves its speed considerably.

RAID stands for *redundant array of independent disks*—though some storage nerds ... er, historians ... argue that the "I" stands for *inexpensive*. In a RAID array, a gaggle of hard drives work together to provide fast speed and, in some instances, fault tolerance. The BDE uses RAID 0, which employs *data striping* (distributing blocks of each file across

multiple drives) to enable it to read and write quickly. RAID 0 doesn't duplicate the file and so doesn't provide fault tolerance, however.

Weighty terabyte. The BDE is beefy—it weighs slightly over 11 pounds, and its aluminum alloy case is distinguished yet formidable. You can connect it to your Mac using one of two FireWire 400 ports or its single FireWire 800 port. The BDE makes noticeable noise, but it's not loud enough to annoy; it stays under the aural radar.

Compared to the internal 160GB Serial ATA drive in a dual 2.5GHz Power Mac G5, the BDE was 10 percent faster in our Finder copy tests when connected via FireWire 800. In Xbench (free, www.xbench.com) tests, the BDE blew past



LaCie's
cinderblock
of storage.

the internal drive in 256K Uncached Read performance (representative of massive file copies or reading a file from disk), with a nice 26-percent boost.

The bottom line. With the BDE, not only can you store all your photos, songs, and videos, you get fast access to them, too. And LaCie gives you other options as well: a \$449 500GB Big Disk Extreme (Aug/04, p55) and a 1.6TB Bigger Disk Extreme (\$2,199). We're happy. —Roman Loyola



COMPANY: LaCie

CONTACT: 503-844-4500,
www.lacie.com

PRICE: \$999

REQUIREMENTS: with FireWire

400, Mac OS 9.x or 10.x; with
FireWire 800, Mac OS 10.2.4 or later

GOOD NEWS: Tons of storage space. Good speed.

BAD NEWS: Heavy. A bit noisy.

MacAddict RATED



SecuriKey

SECURE FLASH DRIVE

The SecuriKey from Griffin Technologies (not to be confused with Griffin Technology, makers of the iTrip and more) uses an old-school security metaphor for your Mac: a key. After you install the SecuriKey software, you plug SecuriKey into a USB port to log into your Mac. Take out the key, and you can't access your user account. Simple.

The bottom line. Is it really secure? Griffin openly admits there more than a few simple ways to bypass the SecuriKey, such as booting from an external drive. We recommend you use encryption software such as Mac OS X's FileVault in combination with SecuriKey for better protection. —Noah Tsutsui



Looks like
a thumb
drive. Works
like a key.

COMPANY: Griffin Technologies
CONTACT: 800-986-6578, www.securikey.com

PRICE: \$129.99 (set of two keys)
REQUIREMENTS: USB-equipped Mac, Mac OS
8.6 or later (10.2 for security software)

GOOD NEWS: Convenient and easy-to-use security.
BAD NEWS: Easy to compromise if you're not using
data encryption.

MacAddict RATED



iCarPlay Wireless Plus

RELIABLE IPOD FM TRANSMITTER

We've found another iPod-to-car radio transmitter (besides the Sonnet Technologies PodFreq (Aug/04, p58) that we're happy with: Monster Cable's iCarPlay.

One end of the iCarPlay plugs into your iPod's dock connector. With a little luck, the other end will fit into your car's 12-volt socket—the flared end on the cable almost prevents the adapter from fitting in a socket that's located inside the ashtray. In the middle of the cable is the channel selector, where you can program any three FM channels, except 87.7 and 87.9.

The bottom line. The freedom to program your choice of channels lets you find the ones with the best audio clarity. And the iCarPlay can also charge your iPod. What a sweet deal. —Roman Loyola



Finally, an
FM transmitter
that works well.

COMPANY: Monster Cable
CONTACT: 415-840-2000,
www.monstercable.com

PRICE: \$79.99
REQUIREMENTS: iPod with dock port

GOOD NEWS: Can tune to almost every FM
channel. Easy to use. Doubles as a charger.
BAD NEWS: Power socket may not fit in
your car's 12-volt socket. Pricey.

MacAddict RATED



the HotList

THE BEST OF THE BEST FROM RECENT REVIEWS

SHOPPING?
HERE'S WHAT WE
RECOMMEND

NEW THIS MONTH



Corel Painter IX

Digital artist Steven Parke reports that "Under the hood, Painter's revamped engine provides a screaming speed boost."

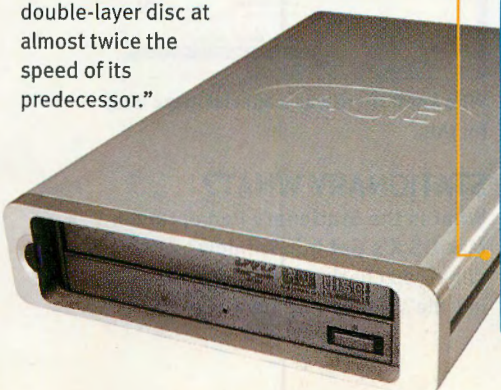
Vidvox Grid2

Video veteran David Biedny calls this video-jockey software "a simple, clean, and effective app that eschews useless bells and whistles."



LaCie d2 DVD±RW Double Layer

DVD addict Noah Tsutsui was impressed that "The d2 can burn up to 8.5GB onto a double-layer disc at almost twice the speed of its predecessor."



SOFTWARE

AUDIO

Ableton Live 4	\$499.00	Jan/05, p43	This top real-time sequencer now has improved MIDI powers.
Bias SoundSoap Pro	\$599.00	Jan/05, p42	Got noise in your video? Here's the app to clean it up.
Glaresoft iDrum	\$49.00	Jan/05, p48	This software drum machine includes hundreds of samples.
Native Instruments Reaktor 4	\$559.00	Jun/04, p56	If you can imagine a sound, you can create it with this synth.

GAMES

Aspyr Call of Duty	\$49.99	Sep/04, p52	This shooter has tons of action, detailed locales, and fun.
Feral Interactive XIII	\$55.00	Oct/04, p52	This mission-based shooter has an old-style comic book feel.
MacSoft Halo: Combat Evolved	\$49.99	Mar/04, p38	It's as awesome as your Xbox buddies say it is.
MacSoft Unreal Tournament 2004	\$39.95	Jun/04, p48	The best first-person shooter adds new vehicles and weapons.

GRAPHICS & LAYOUT

Adobe InDesign CS	\$699.00	Feb/04, p46	More features and easier navigation make layout a snap.
Adobe Photoshop CS	\$649.00	Feb/04, p44	Just when you thought Photoshop couldn't get better, it did.
Corel Painter IX	\$429.00	Feb/05, p38	This natural-media champ is now faster and more capable.
Macromedia Dreamweaver MX 2004	\$399.00	Jan/04, p48	Our favorite Web-design tool adds improved CSS support.
Macromedia Flash MX 2004 Pro.	\$699.00	Jan/04, p48	Don't know how to write code? Flash MX will do it for you.
Nik Multimedia Color Efex Pro 2.0	\$299.95	Jan/05, p41	You'll be amazed by this plug-in's filters and darkroom effects.
Strata 3D CX	\$695.00	Dec/04, p43	Whether you're a 3D newbie or expert, this app's for you.

PRODUCTIVITY & UTILITIES

Bare Bones Software BBEdit 8.0	\$179.00	Jan/05, p36	By far the most powerful text editor money can buy.
FileMaker Pro 7	\$299.00	Jul/04, p46	A complete rewrite vaults this database into the big leagues.
Microsoft Office 2004	\$399.00	Aug/04, p42	Enhancements to every app add up to a worthy upgrade.

VIDEO & ANIMATION

Adobe After Effects 6.5	\$699.00	Sep/04, p46	This upgrade is strong enough to be called version 7.
Apple Final Cut Express 2.0.2	\$299.00	May/04, p48	Unless you need to go Pro, Express will save you \$700.
Discreet Combustion 3	\$995.00	Sep/04, p47	If you're serious about video compositing, get this software.
Vidvox Grid2	\$75.00	Feb/05, p39	Join the VJ ranks with this MIDI-capable video-mixing app.

HARDWARE

ACCESSORIES

Apple AirPort Express	\$129.00	Oct/04, p48	This portable wireless router will stream your iTunes music.
RadTech BT-500 Mobile Mouse	\$54.95	Aug/04, p58	Here's the perfect mouse for Bluetooth-equipped travelers.

AUDIO & VIDEO

Canon Optura Xi	\$999.00	Aug/04, p38	High-end features distinguish this mid-priced camcorder.
MCE Technologies QuickStreamDV	\$729.00	Aug/04, p57	This rugged DV-encoding drive includes a hot-shoe mount.
Native Instruments Guitar Rig	\$499.00	Nov/04, p40	Killer software plus a study stomp box will wow any guitarist.
Sony DCR-VX2100	\$2,999.99	Aug/04, p39	Want to move up to the big leagues? Here's your camcorder.
Sony DCR-HC20	\$499.99	Aug/04, p36	This compact, inexpensive camcorder has great image quality.
Tivoli Audio iPal	\$129.99	Nov/04, p50	You won't believe the sound of this compact radio and speaker.

DIGITAL CAMERAS

Nikon D70 Digital SLR	\$1,299.00	Jul/04, p50	It's as close to perfect as any digital SLR camera we've seen.
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PRINTERS

Canon i560	\$89.99	Sep/04, p28	Ninety bucks can buy an exceptionally capable photo printer.
Canon i860	\$119.99	Sep/04, p29	This printer's Photo Black cartridge makes color photos pop.
Canon i900D	\$199.99	Sep/04, p31	Gorgeous prints, CD printing, color-LCD editing—all good stuff.

SCANNERS

Epson Perfection 2580	\$149.00	Oct/04, p37	This flatbed handles both reflective and film scans with ease.
Epson Perfection 4180	\$199.00	Oct/04, p39	Superior image quality earns this scanner our recommendation.
Microtek ScanMaker i320	\$129.00	Oct/04, p35	Killer photo-rescue software comes with this affordable unit.

STORAGE

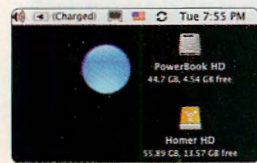
LaCie Big Disk Extreme 500GB	\$449.00	Aug/04, p55	Cutting-edge technology provides cutting-edge performance.
LaCie d2 DVD±RW Double Layer	\$199.00	Feb/05, p48	Cram 8.5GB of data onto DVDs with this speedy burner.
OWC Mercury Pro DVD-/±RW	\$159.99	Aug/04, p60	This speedy drive includes everything you need to start burning.
WiebeTech G5Jam 1TB	\$1,299.95	Aug/04, p59	This internal 4-drive RAID makes a Power Mac G5 scream.

ask us

POWER BLOB

Is there any way to control Exposé other than hot corners and function keys?

There's a hidden little treasure in Panther: a movable, clickable Exposé interface. To activate it, launch the Terminal (Applications/Utilities), and type `defaults write com.apple.dock wvous-floater -bool true`. Press Return, type `killall Dock`, press Return



This alien blue button is hidden in Panther.

again, and check out the big blue button that appears on your screen. Click it to see the windows in your current app; Option-click it to see all the

windows. To get rid of the button, type in the same sequence in the Terminal but change `true` to `false`.

AQUA ON BEIGE

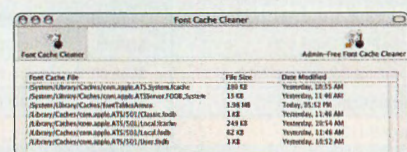
My beige G3 has a 20GB drive divided into 7GB and 13GB partitions. Mac OS X installed fine—but now it boots to a grey screen, then flickers and restarts.

On an old G3 or an original iMac, it's only possible to install Mac OS X onto a drive or volume partition that is less than 8GB and is located at the beginning of the drive (yes, hard drives have a beginning and an end). You could partition a 20GB drive into 7GB and 13GB segments, then install Mac OS X on it—but we'll bet that you created a 13GB partition and *then* a 7GB partition, which made it impossible to install OS X on either partition.

FONT FOIBLES

I recently installed the Mac OS X 10.3.6 update, and my startup time is now superslow. How can I speed it back up?

Font overload is a common cause of slow startups. Typically this occurs when you have lots of fonts installed and you aren't using font-management software such as Suitcase or Font Reserve (both from Extensis, www.extensis.com). If you want to speed up your startup process, limit the number of fonts in your `user name/Library/Fonts` folder and in System Folder/Fonts (that's Classic's System Folder). The problem could also stem



Clean up those font caches for a faster startup.

from one or more corrupt font caches, which contain references to what fonts



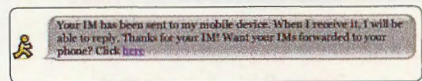
you have installed. The easiest way to clean up your font caches is to use the handy Font

Finagler utility (\$10, <http://homepage.mac.com/mdouma46/fontfinagler>).

ICHAT TO PHONE

How can I send text messages from iChat to my mobile phone?

If your mobile phone and service allow SMS messaging, you can send messages to your phone via iChat or any AIM (AOL Instant Messaging) client. To send a message, just start a new Chat by selecting File > New Chat With Person from the menu bar. In the address line, type +1 followed by the phone number, including the area code. So if your full phone number is 555-123-4567, you would type in +15551234567 as the chat address. Can you hear me now? No? Then iChat me!



Take your text on the road—send text messages to a mobile phone from iChat running on your Mac.

SLEEP, DAMN YOU!

I have set my Mac to sleep after a certain period, but it just doesn't work. Help!

When you set your Mac to go to sleep after a certain period of time, you really are just telling Mac OS X to go to sleep. The problem comes when you have software or hardware installed and/or running that denies this request. To troubleshoot your sleep problem, take a look at the Activity Monitor (Applications/Utilities) and investigate what processes might be running. Try quitting some processes and waiting

quick answers

SAFARI STATUS

I live by Safari's status bar at the bottom of the window, but it disappeared! How do I get it back? We're amazed that this option isn't just always on, but you can toggle it on and off by selecting View > Status Bar. Even quicker, use the



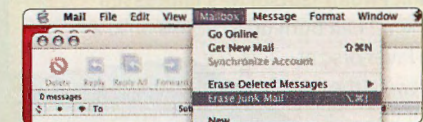
keyboard shortcut Command-forward slash (/).

Stay informed by enabling Safari's Status Bar.

JUNK REMOVAL

I have Mail set to put all my junk mail into a Junk mailbox, but how do I permanently delete these messages? Click your Junk mailbox to highlight it, and then select Mailbox > Erase Junk

Mail. This will get rid of all those pesky junk messages.



Who knew there was a special menu item for this?

STATIONARY WHAT?

What is the Stationary Pad option in Mac OS X's Get Info window?

When you check the Stationary Pad box in a file's Get Info window, every time



No whining—
anyone
can do this!



It'll take some
effort, but you
can do it.



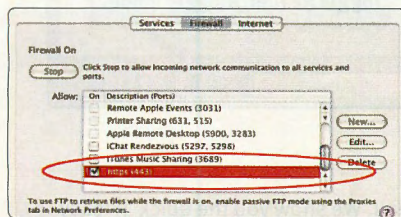
This stuff's
for the pros.

to see if your Mac goes to sleep on schedule—with some perseverance you should be able to find the culprit.

INSECURITY

I have an iMac set up to share its Internet connection via its Airport card. My Airport-enabled iBook can surf the Web, but I can't access https (secure) Web sites.

Internet Sharing works great, but Mac OS X's built-in firewall can stop your sharing dead in its tracks. With the firewall on, no Web sites will work until you start Personal Web Sharing in System Preferences > Sharing > Services. This will open up port 80 for http traffic on your firewall (you can also do this manually by following the instructions below) so Web data can enter and leave one Mac on its way to another. If you need access to secure https Web sites, then you need to open one more port. In



Sometimes sharing the Internet requires opening a port or two.

System Preferences > Sharing > Firewall, click New; in the resulting window, select Other in the Port Name drop-down menu. Enter 443 in the Port Number, Range Or Series field, and HTTPS in the Description field, then click OK. Now all Web sites will work over a shared, firewall-protected Internet connection.

you open that file, you will actually be opening a copy called Untitled, leaving the original file unmodified.

VIVE LE SCRAPBOOK

I want to upgrade to Mac OS X, but I depend on the Scrapbook in Mac OS 9. Is there a Mac OS X version?

Apple abandoned the venerable Scrapbook after Mac OS 9. However, Aqueous Software offers a wonderful alternative called ScrapX (\$20 shareware, www.aqueoussoftware.com/scrapx). ScrapX

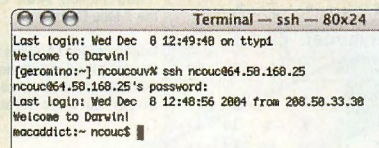


UNIX UNIVERSITY

GRAB THE REMOTE

What is Remote Login and how can I use it to access my home Mac from work?

Remote Login allows one Mac to control another Mac by running the ssh (secure shell) app from the command line in the Terminal (Applications/Utilities). You enable this option in System Preferences > Sharing > Services by selecting Remote Login. This makes that Mac accessible from another Mac. On the latter, you can now connect to the Remote Login-enabled Mac using the Terminal.



We just connected from our local machine (geromino) to a remote Mac (macaddict)—our trusty Web server.

To connect, you will need to know the public IP address of the Remote Login-enabled Mac. Note that we said *public* IP address; PPPoE and other types of dynamic IP addresses work, but if your home network includes an

AirPort Base Station or other NAT (network address translation) router to split a single IP address, your Mac(s) have *hidden* IP addresses, typically in the 192.168.x.x or 10.15.x.x blocks—which means no ssh for you. To find the IP address of the remote Mac, open System Preferences > Network on the Mac you'll be logging in to, and select Network Status from the Show pull-down menu to display your IP address. Launch the Terminal and type `ssh user name@IP address`, press Return, and type `yes` if prompted about a fingerprint key ("The authenticity of host x.x.x.x can't be established"). At the password prompt, type the password associated with the user name you used in the ssh command. You'll then see the following:

Welcome to Darwin!

Mac name:~user name\$

You're in and now have complete control of the remote Mac (if the user's password you used is that of an administrator). All Unix command-line activity occurs just as if you were physically sitting at that Mac. To exit, type `logout` and press return.

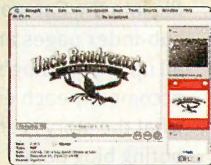
EYE (WANT) CANDY

When using fast-user switching in Mac OS X Panther, my 400MHz Power Mac G4 doesn't show the cool rotating-screen effect. Why not?

Mac OS X 10.3 Panther uses a technology called Quartz Extreme to

accelerate and enhance the way your Mac draws information on the screen. One of these enhancements is the rotating-screen effect you mentioned. Unfortunately, Quartz Extreme requires certain newer video cards in order to work. Your Mac's older video card can handle Panther, just without the benefits of Quartz Extreme (www.apple.com/macosx/features/quartzextreme). To use Quartz Extreme you need either an Nvidia GeForce2 MX, GeForce3, GeForce4 MX, or GeForce4 Ti, or any AGP-based ATI Radeon card.

has all Scrapbook's powers and then some.



For those who can't live without the Scrapbook, there's ScrapX.

HELP VIEWER HELP

I accidentally deleted the search bar from the toolbar of the Help Viewer—how can I get it back?

Select View > Customize Toolbar, or Control-click the toolbar and choose Customize Toolbar.

Buz is a graphic designer living in Florida. He has been a devoted Mac user for over 10 years, and has worked for both Apple and Power Computing.

Submit technical questions or helpful tips directly via email (askus@macaddict.com) or c/o **MacAddict**, 150 North Hill Dr., Ste. 40, Brisbane, CA 94005.

Blog Your .Mac HomePage

EASY

by Niko Coucouvanis

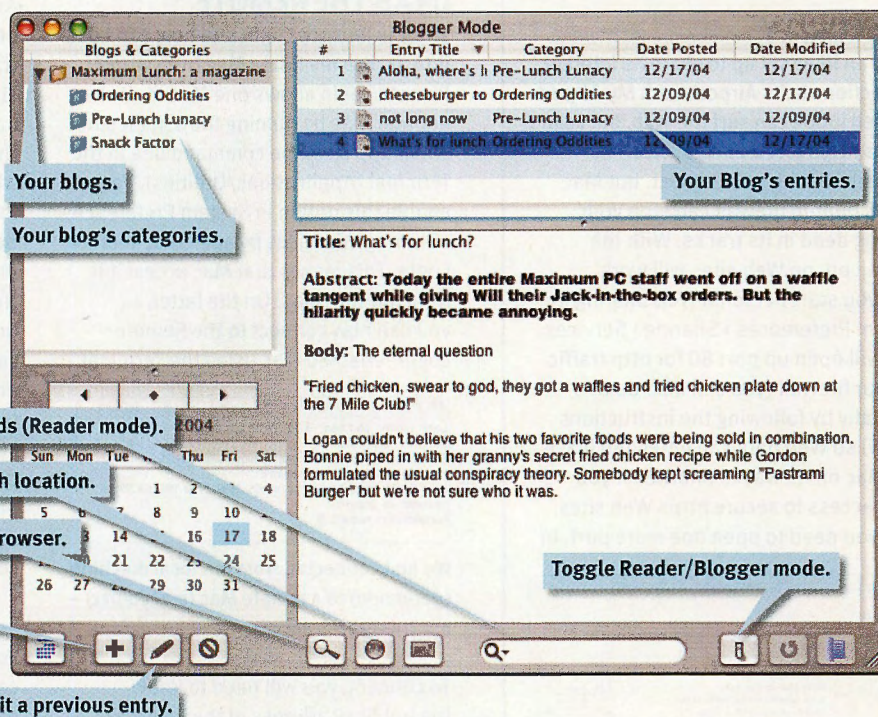
WHAT YOU NEED

Mac OS X 10.2 or later
(\$129, www.apple.com)

Safari (free, www.apple.com)

iBlog (\$19.95 shareware,
www.lifli.com)

.Mac account (\$99/year) or
other public Web space



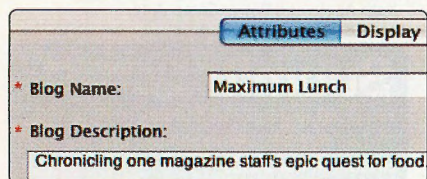
If you're a Dot-Mac dummy with dreams of becoming a Web-logging wiz, you're in luck. Lifli Software's iBlog is a shareware app that lets you easily publish your own blog (Web log) to any Web space: your Dot-Mac HomePage, personal www.myselfaggrandizement.com site, or wherever

you hang your Web chapeau. We show you the quick 'n' easy way to self-publishing with iBlog and dig into further adventures with iBlog: customizing the look, adding multimedia, and publishing an RSS feed.



1 Get Started with iBlog

Install iBlog off this month's Disc or download it from www.lifli.com; launch the app, and if the window's title bar doesn't say Blogger Mode, hit the light-switch icon to toggle out of iBlog's Reader mode. Now click the plus-sign icon in the window's lower-left corner and select New Blog from the pop-up menu. In the resulting dialog, give your blog a catchy name and description, and avail yourself of any optional attributes your little heart desires. Click the Display Settings tab to specify your blog's basic layout: number and chronological order of posts on the main page, whether you want the navigation on the right-hand or left-hand side of the page, and style sheets for the color scheme. Don't sweat the cosmetics yet—we'll tweak the templates and style sheets later and redesign the blog retroactively.



A catchy name and a snappy description will help distinguish your blog from the countless other blogs out there.

2 Get Catty with Categories

Our blog chronicles the daily menu-debate ridiculousness that we hear over our cubicle walls from our esteemed colleagues at *Maximum PC* magazine. Since their food banter never ends, we set categories for Pre-Lunch Lunacy, Ordering Oddities, and Snack Factor. Click the plus sign icon and select New Category from the pop-up menu. Type a snappy name into the Category Name box, and drag a small image file into the Category Image box. iBlog automatically creates sub-index pages and archives for each category (and links it all up in your blog's navigation box), and the category images accompany each entry's headline so readers can tell at a glance what the story is about—and they add a little eye candy to the boring blog page.



Creating new categories is far easier than picking which image to drag into the Category Image box.

3 Where To, Mac?

Many blogs live on a remote server with the rest of a site's Web files, and you update the pages from anywhere via a Web browser. iBlog trades that convenience for supremely easy setup. iBlog stays on your Mac, where you write the blog entries, then click the Publish button to shuttle your missives up to the Web—so we need to tell iBlog where to publish our blog. Select iBlog > Preferences from the menu bar and click the Publish icon. Select .Mac in the Choose Location Type drop-down menu, click the New Location button, and enter your .Mac user name and password; if you want your blog to be the first thing visitors see when they access your site, change Copy To Folder from its default Sites/iBlog to Sites (unless you want to stash your blog in a subdirectory). Finally, if you want to host multiple blogs in one directory, click the Copy Blog Folder check box to keep each blog in its own sub-directory. If you don't have a .Mac account, set iBlog to publish to a local server, or over FTP, AFP, or WebDav to hosted Web space—you just need to know the Web directory (it's Library/WebServer/Documents on a Mac OS X server) and corresponding Web address. Click Save and close the Preferences window. Now let's blog!

Publish Locations		
Name	Type	Assigned Blogs
dot-mac blog	.Mac	Maximum Lunch

If you're really prolific, you can use iBlog on multiple blogs.

5 Make it Multimedia

As luck would have it, iBlog plays nice with Apple's iApps. The Music and Photos icons in iBlog's toolbar load your iTunes and iPhoto libraries, which you can browse by Playlist and Album, respectively, and import tunes or photos to post on your blog. You can even post QuickTime movies to your blog, and iBlog handles all the required file uploading and QuickTime-embedding.



Photoblogging? Pft! The cool kids are already videoblogging.

7 Own It

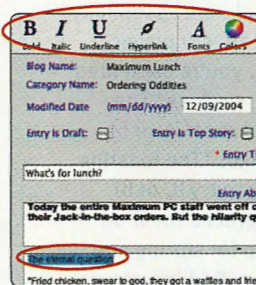
Customizing iBlog sites is super-easy—up to a point. The app has built-in stylesheet and template editors that let you tweak your blog's appearance. To change the stylesheet, double-click on the blog's title in the Blogs & Categories list, click Display Settings, and finally use the Choose A Stylesheet pull-down menu to use one of the built-in color schemes (including Blackberry, Mint, Plain, and Banana).

To make your own stylesheets, select Layout > Manage Stylesheets from the menu bar, click New, type in a name for your stylesheet, then go nuts picking background and text colors for different parts of the page. When you like how it looks in the Preview pane, click Save and close the Stylesheet Manager. Now your new stylesheet is available in the Display Settings stylesheets list. The Layout menu's other item, Manage Templates, isn't quite as user-friendly unless you're handy with

4 Let The Pontification Begin

Time to put your money where your blog is and fill it up with some compelling content. Click the plus sign icon and select New Entry from the pop-up menu. In the New Entry dialog, designate a blog and category for the post, if applicable; tweak any of the other settings to taste and fill in Entry Title and Entry Body. Note that adding text in the Entry Abstract field is optional—an abstract is the blurb that often accompanies headlines on a blog's front page, teasing the reader to click a link to read the rest of the story. If you want to get fancy, now's a good time to use iBlog's formatting tools to change your font face, style, and color.

Finally, select Blogs > Reset Publish State And Publish from the menu bar to push the whole blog out to the Web. If you're uptight about first impressions, start with Reset Preview State And Preview instead to see how the blog looks in a Web browser before putting it up live for all the world to mock. After this first publishing, you can simply click the Publish button in iBlog's main window to publish your most recent musing unless you want to change your publishing settings.



Use iBlog's formatting tools to spice up your words a bit.

6 Syndicate Thyself

iBlog generates an XML feed for RSS (really simple syndication) news feeds—just double-click on the blog's title in iBlog's Blogs And Categories list, then click the Yes radio button next to Create XML Feed, and fans of your blog can subscribe and never miss an entry. To spread the word about your syndicated stylings, check the Yes radio buttons next to Ping DotMac.info and Ping Weblogs.com, and every time you publish fresh content, iBlog will notify Weblogs.com and

Ping Weblogs.com: ☐ Yes ☒ No

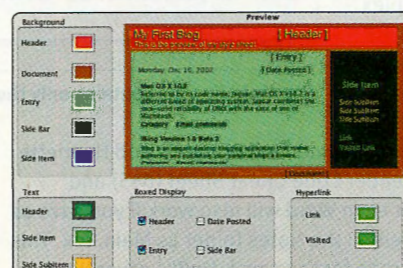
Ping DotMac.info: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Create XML feed: ☒ Yes ☐ No

DotMac.info, two popular sites that link to recently updated blogs.

Spread your bloggings far and wide via RSS.

HTML and CSS. But don't let us stop you—hit the New Template Set button to create a copy of the active template set, and dig



right in. If (when?) you mangle the code, you'll still have the original templates intact.

OUCH—here's one extremely ugly design you can impose on your blog.



Niko Coucouvanis still chuckles like an immature creep whenever he uses the term blog. "Huh-huh, huh—blog!"



Create a Text-Based iPod Game

EASY

by David Prochnow

WHAT YOU NEED

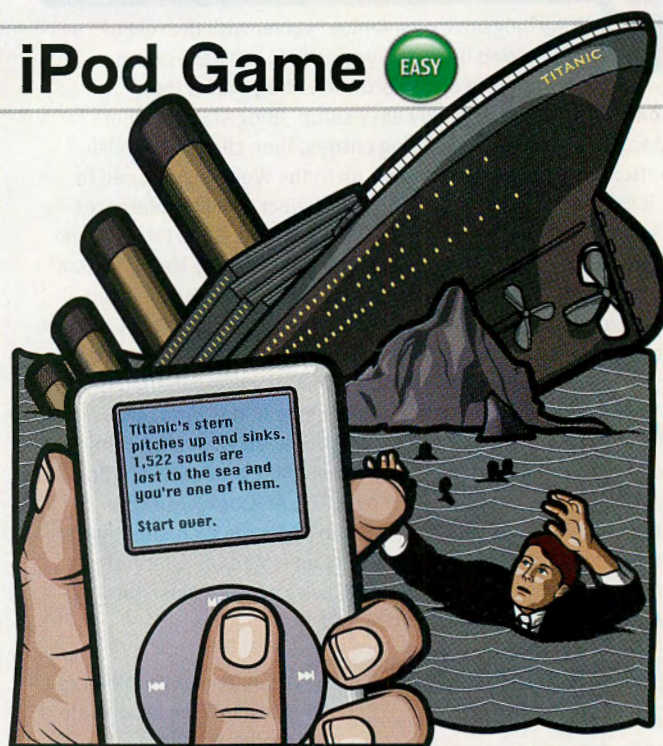
Mac OS 10.2 or later

iPod with iPod 2.x or later software

BBEdit (www.barebones.com) or similar text editor

Text-based adventure games—sometimes called *interactive fiction* by the highbrows driving the medium's recent Internet revival—are essentially stories that present you, the reader or player, with a nonlinear narrative. For example, you're presented with a situation and a series of choices, such as "The eagle has landed, do you: a) skewer and roast it, or b) call the president." Then on the next page: "The roasting eagle looks rancid, do you: a) get Mikey to try it, or b) eat it anyway." And so on. Since Apple graced the iPod with a Notes folder and Note Reader app for storing and

reading text files, the iPod is a natural vehicle for textual hijinks, but it's got some limitations—follow along and we'll show you how to code your game or story for iPod delivery, plus how to



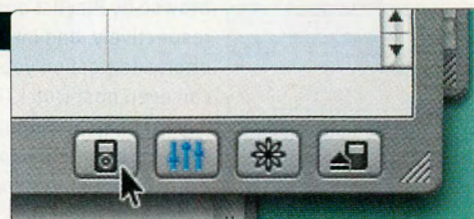
Sink, swim, or down with the ship? Text games are all about choices.

work within the iPod's limits, which include a wee-small screen and even smaller file size (4K maximum).

ILLUSTRATION BY CHRISTINA EMPEDOCLES

1 Prepare the 'Pod

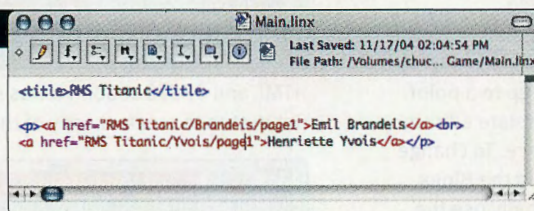
Before we get into the good stuff, you'll need to set up the iPod to act as a hard disk drive. Plug in your iPod and launch iTunes if you haven't set it to launch automatically. Select your iPod in the iTunes Source list at the left and click the iPod Options button to open the iPod Preferences. If your 'Pod is set for Manual song and playlist management, you're already in hard-disk mode and good to go. If either of the Automatic update choices is selected, click the box labeled Enable Disk Use. Click OK to seal the deal. Now you can browse the iPod in a Finder window. Note the Notes folder inside—that's where your game will live.



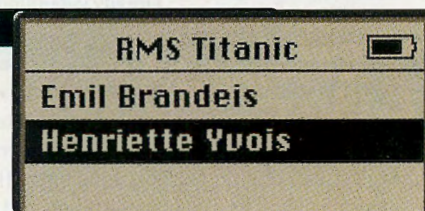
Click on the iTunes iPod Options button to access your iPod's preferences.

2 Start the Story

Now create a Notes folder on your Mac for developing your story—if you're making a big, complex game, add subfolders to organize the pages by character. We created two subfolders to hold the files for each of our main characters, named Emil Brandeis and Henriette Yvois. Clip out the Note Reader Code Cheat Sheet (p55) and launch BBEdit (TextEdit or even Word will also work if you save as Text Only). Save a document in the Notes folder as Main.linx. This file will be the opening screen for the game. Unlike other Note Reader text files, Main.linx can only contain two elements: a title enclosed in `<title>title</title>` tags, and standard HTML links to other pages in the game. For example, `<a href="Yvois/`



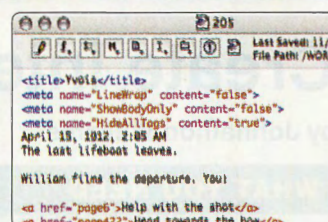
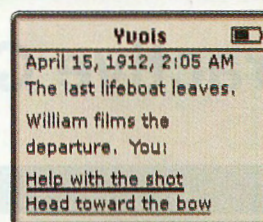
The Main.linx file contains only the game's title and the links that lead you into the adventure.



`page1">link` in the screenshot links to a page named page1 in the Yvois folder. As you can see in the screenshot, our game, *RMS Titanic*, begins with a choice of following one of two passengers, Emil Brandeis and Henriette Yvois—as the game developer you get to decide how many passengers will sail on your little text-based luxury liner. This would be a good time to add a title and links to your Main.linx file, or you can write the game first and finish Main.linx later.

3 Just Add Text

Now it's time to do some typing—you didn't think your story was going to autogenerate itself did you? Following our example in the screenshot and the Cheat Sheet, write, name, and save the text files that make up your game. Don't forget to use your `link text` tags to link subsequent pages. Also, keep in mind that Note Reader's screen measures approximately 8 rows by 21 columns (give or take, depending on different iPod versions). The prime directive is to keep your verbiage tight. Remember that Notes files are limited to a puny 4K file size, but you can stash up to 1,000 files in Notes, so you'll be creating lots of little notes, strung together with `<a href>` tags.

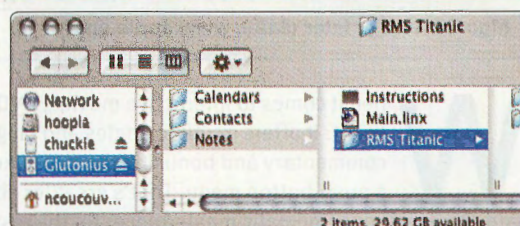


Writing an iPod game is deceptively easy and unusually terse. What you write (right) is pretty much what you get (left).

4 Get Your Game On

Now simply drag your local copy of Main.linx and everything else contained in the Notes folder you created on your Mac into the Notes folder on your iPod. There's probably a file named Instructions in the latter folder, but it won't interfere with the game; you can delete or ignore it. To access the game, navigate to Extras > Notes on the iPod, and you should see your opening screen. If you don't, you probably forgot to fill in that Main.linx file—otherwise, it's time to debug your game.

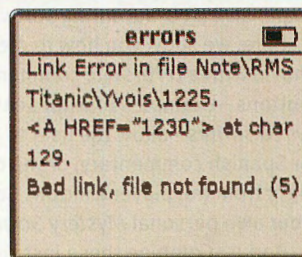
Get the game on your iPod so you can get your game on.



5 Debug the Buzzer

Tracking down errors in your game is super easy, thanks to Note Reader's limited vocabulary. The `<errors>` tag is a little powerhouse that'll scan every file in your Notes directory for syntax errors and list the offending files. To use it, create a text document with only the `<errors>` tag, name it *error*, and save it in the iPod's Notes folder. Now open your Main.linx page and add a link to the error page in this format: `debug`. When you hit that link to load the errors page on your iPod, the screen will fill up with the file names of the pages you need to fix, and even identify the errors for you. Once you've squashed all the errors, remove the error page and its link from Main.linx. All that's left now is basking in the glory of being a published game developer—well, published on your personal iPod, in any case.

Another text-game advantage: Debugging is simple.




Game Development 101

Any game is only as good as the story that surrounds the play. This mandate is especially true in text-based games, which can't rely on fancy sound effects, eye-popping graphics, and flashy animation. We'll leave the specifics to you, budding game developer, but here's the basic recipe for a good text-based game:

Background Above everything else, text-based games rely on a solid concept and boatloads of planning. Take more notes than you think you'll need on character biographies, location settings, time constraints, objectives, and goals—in other words, all of that who, what, where, when, and why stuff.

Timeline Due to the nonlinear nature of text-based games, a thorough timeline becomes your bible for keeping the game on track and the players satisfied. And don't worry too much about pigeonholing yourself—it's your game, after all, so you can change things to suit your whim.

 Dave Prochnow continues to wonder whether there is a significant connection between the date of the Titanic's sinking and the date for filing your federal income tax return.

Note Reader Code Cheat Sheet

Before you can strut your game's stuff, you must learn to talk the talk. Note that Note Reader's tags are not case sensitive, and unlike the HTML it resembles, Note Reader code doesn't require file extensions, so we've called our pages *page1*, *page2*, and so forth, not *page1.html*.

`<title>your game's title</title>` Specifies the note's title; if you skip this tag the file name displays as the title.

`<a href>page name` Links to other Note Reader files; add a backslash (\) before the page name if your file is in the root Notes folder. Do it as follows to link to a song—when you hit the link, the song will play on the iPod:

`hey ho, let's go`

`
` Inserts a line break.

`<p>a text paragraph</p>` Encloses a paragraph.

`<errors>` Displays all file and link errors detected in the Notes folder; use it alone in a file.

The tags above will get you started, but if you want to learn more, you can download the complete iPod Note Reader User Guide from Apple's Web site (free, <http://developer.apple.com/hardware/ipod/>).



Create Interactive QuickTime Movies

TRICKY

by Johnathon Williams

WHAT YOU NEED

Adobe Photoshop CS or Photoshop Elements (\$649 and \$89.99 respectively, www.adobe.com)

Adobe GoLive CS (\$399, www.adobe.com)

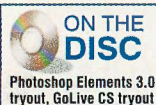
QuickTime Pro (\$39, www.apple.com/quicktime/)

Mac OS 10.2 or later (\$129, www.apple.com)

When it comes to interactive movies, DVD is the ticket: It offers multiple angles and languages, commentary and bonus tracks, all tucked behind a push-button menu. That's great for distributing hard copies of your cinematic masterpiece; for the rest of us, however, interactive QuickTime movies are smaller and more accessible, and don't require iDVD and a built-in SuperDrive, or expensive DVD-authoring software.

Here, we show you how to create an interactive QuickTime movie with a DVD-style commentary track. Interactive buttons—examples of what seasoned QuickTime geeks call *wired sprites*—allow the user to choose, for example, English or Spanish commentary, or the original uncommented version, right from the player window. Consider it a license to operate your own personal *Mystery Science Theater 3000*.

Bonus: Combine these instructions with our previous QuickTime skinning tutorial (Nov/04, p54), and wrap your interactive QuickTime movie in a totally customized player.



These instructions assume that you have a QuickTime movie with two separate audio tracks all ready to go. If you need help creating one, see "Make Tracks," p58.

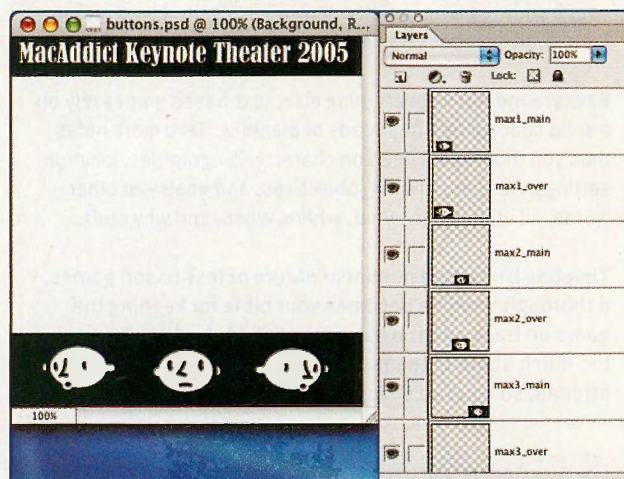


Until now, our special Max-commentary edition of Steve's keynote address was a well-kept office secret. Here, learn how to harness the power of interactive QuickTime files to create your own.

1 Bust Out the Buttons

In Photoshop or Photoshop Elements, create a new document big enough to contain both your movie and your buttons. Our movie is 320 by 240 pixels, so we made a 320-by-340 document, adding 100 pixels of vertical space for our buttons and title. If you're not sure what size your movie is, open it in QuickTime and click Movie > Get Movie Properties. Then select Size from the pull-down menu on the right.

Each button is composed of two images: a main image and a rollover image, each in its own dedicated layer. Select Layer > New > Layer from the menu bar and type a name ending in *_main* for the button's initial state. To create the button's rollover state—usually a contrasting version of the same button, which activates to indicate that the user's mouse is over the button—duplicate the layer (Layer > Duplicate Layer) and type a name ending in *_over*. We called ours *max1_main* and *max1_over*. Add as many buttons as you desire, each with individual *_main* and *_over* layers, and save the file as *buttons.psd*.

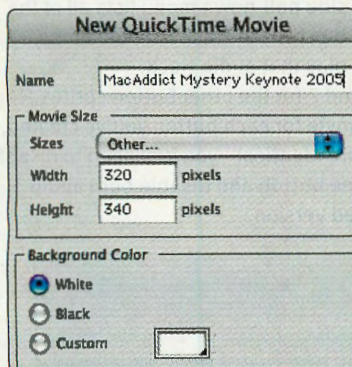


Mind your p's, q's, and layer names to ensure a smooth import into GoLive.

2 Get Ready with GoLive

Open GoLive and follow the prompts in the start-up dialog that appears to create a new site, or select File > New Site from the menu bar. Either way, GoLive creates the site folder in your *user name/Documents* folder. Drop both your buttons.psd file and the QuickTime movie file you want to jazz up into the web-content folder inside the site folder.

Now you'll create a new movie in GoLive, in which you'll combine the original movie with your buttons and a title frame to create your new interactive movie. Select File > New Special > QuickTime Movie. In the resulting dialog, enter the



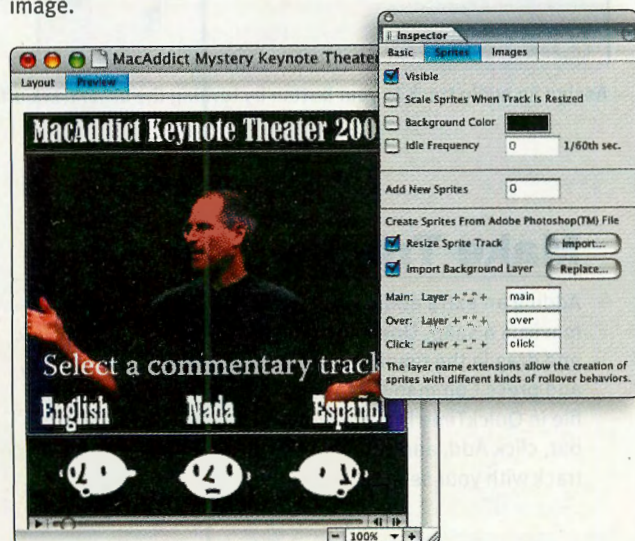
same dimensions as for your Photoshop file in step 1. Finally, activate GoLive's Timeline Editor by selecting Movie > Show Timeline Editor.

Size is of the essence; make sure your new movie's dimensions match the size of your Photoshop file, not those of your original movie.

4 Patch It Through

Now you'll see why we were so picky about the names of your button layers. Highlight your sprite track by clicking it, and go to the Inspector window. (Press Command-1 to toggle the window if it's not present.) Click the Sprites tab, and then click the Import button. Navigate to the buttons.psd file in your web-content folder, and press Return. GoLive will ask you to choose a compression setting—PNG works well with QuickTime.

If you named the layers correctly in your buttons.psd file, GoLive will automatically import and position all of your buttons as wired sprites—it'll even create the rollover effect. Test it out by clicking the Preview tab in GoLive's MOV document window. Rolling your mouse over a button should show the rollover image.

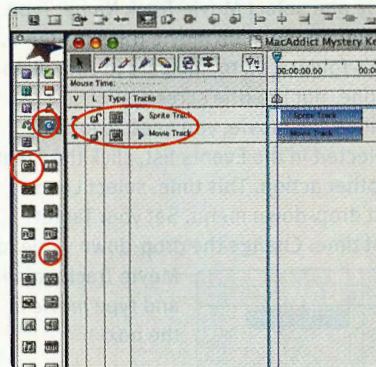


Import your buttons via the multifaceted Inspector palette (right), and test them in the document window's Preview mode.

3 Stack Your Tracks

GoLive divides the different parts of a QuickTime movie into separate tracks. You need two tracks: a *sprite track* for the buttons, and a *movie track* for the movie. Click the QuickTime icon in the Objects palette to bring up the movie-tool icons. The Sprite Track icon is in the center of the right column on the palette; click and drag it into your timeline to create a new sprite track. Then click the Movie Track icon (top left on the palette) and drag it below the sprite track. Note that the Timeline Editor lists tracks in the order in which they appear (front to back) in the final movie, so keep buttons and items you

want in front at the top of the list.



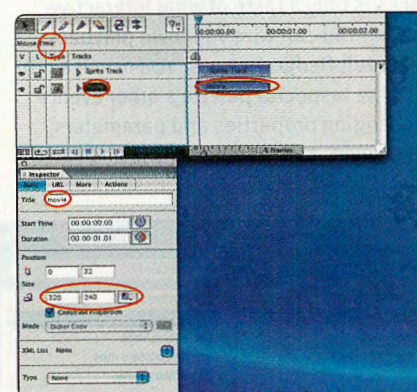
The Timeline Editor stacks tracks front to back, so keep your movie track below the button-laden sprite track.

5 Set the Title Screen

Since you're adding interactive buttons to your movie, it's a good idea to add a title screen to explain what the buttons are for. Create a title screen by opening an image within QuickTime and saving it in your site's web-content folder as a QuickTime MOV file. We just added some text to a copy of the first frame of our movie, but you can make the image as fancy or plain as you like—just make sure it has the same dimensions as your original movie, not the new, bigger one you're making in GoLive.

In GoLive's Timeline Editor, click the Movie Track and go to the Inspector palette. Click the URL tab and click the file icon next to the Link box. In the dialog box that appears, select the QuickTime file that contains your title screen. The file's location will appear in the Link box. Next, click the Basic tab and type *movie* in the Title box. The height and width of your movie should fill in automatically in the appropriate fields. Check the Preview window to make sure everything is in place—this

title screen is a placeholder for the real movie, so if it's not exactly where you want the movie to appear, use the Inspector palette's Position boxes to enter a pixel-offset value.



Setting the Title in the Inspector auto-updates the Movie Track's name in the Timeline Editor.

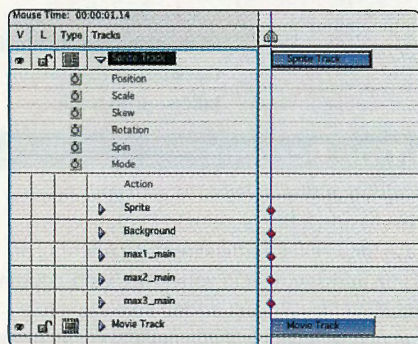
6 Wire Your Video

Highlight the Sprite Track and click its disclosure triangle. You'll see your other sprites listed below, identified by red diamond icons to their right. Click the diamond icon for the first sprite (max1_main), and click the Inspector palette's Actions tab. This is where you'll tell QuickTime how to react when one of your buttons gets pushed.

Scroll down the list of Events and highlight Mouse Click, then click the Create New Item icon below the Actions list; this populates the pull-down menu with relevant actions, including Set Child Movie URL—select that one. Next, click the drop-down menu next to Target Movie and select Movie Track Name. Type *movie*—the name you assigned the main movie track in step 5. Finally, click the Link box's folder icon to navigate to your main movie—the commented one, not the title screen.

Now that you've identified the movie, you need to load it. With Mouse Click still selected in the Events list, click the Create New Item icon to add another action. This time, select Load Child Movie from the first drop-down menu. Set your Target Movie just as you did last time: Change the drop-down value to

Movie Track Name and type *movie* in the box.

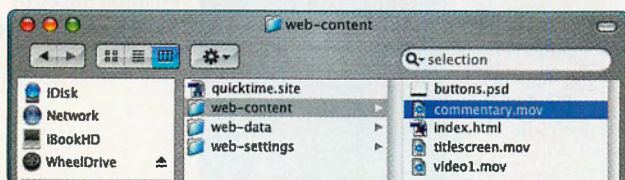


Highlight your sprite to load its Events and Actions into the Inspector palette.

8 Do a Postproduction Test

To test your movie, save it to your GoLive site's web-content directory and open it in QuickTime Player. (You can also use GoLive's onboard Preview, but it doesn't work reliably). If all is well, clicking each button will play your movie with the appropriate audio track. Otherwise, go back and double-check the actions for each of your sprites. And remember, GoLive is picky about file locations—keep everything in the web-content folder, or you'll break the links to your title screen and movie file.

Selecting audio tracks is only a taste of what interactive QuickTime movies can do. You can wire your own playback controls and even create full-fledged games. You can use our instructions on most of the Inspector palette's other events and actions, such as changing properties and parameters, navigating through the movie, and loading scripts and Flash files.



Keep your files together either on the desktop or on your Web server if you want the movie to work.

7 Wire Your Sound

With the video loaded, it's time to assign an audio track to your button. QuickTime enables all audio tracks by default, so you need to turn one of them off.

With Mouse Click still selected in the Events list, click Create New Item to add another action. Select Track Set Enabled from the first drop-down menu. Type *movie* in the Target Movie box, then select Use Target Track Name in the Track drop-down menu. In the box, type the name of the audio track you want to silence, and then press Return. (To see your movie's track names, open the movie file in QuickTime and select Movie > Get Movie Properties. The left-side pull-down menu lists all of the movie's tracks.) Leave the box next to Track Enabled empty—this tells QuickTime not to play that audio track.

Finally, repeat steps 6 and 7 for the other button sprites. You're loading the same movie for each button you've created, so the video instructions are identical—you just need to disable the other audio track for one button and disable both audio tracks for the uncommented version.



Assign an audio track to your button by turning the other track off.

Make Tracks

Adding an extra audio track to an existing QuickTime movie is a snap. Open an audio file in QuickTime Pro, click and drag in the timeline to select part (or all) of the audio, and press Command-C to copy it. Next, open your movie file in QuickTime Pro and Option-click Edit in the menu bar; click Add, and your movie will sprout a new audio track with your selection from the audio file.

Johnathon Williams is working on a plug-in that will finally bring scratch-and-sniff technology to QuickTime.

Spelunk Safari

EASY

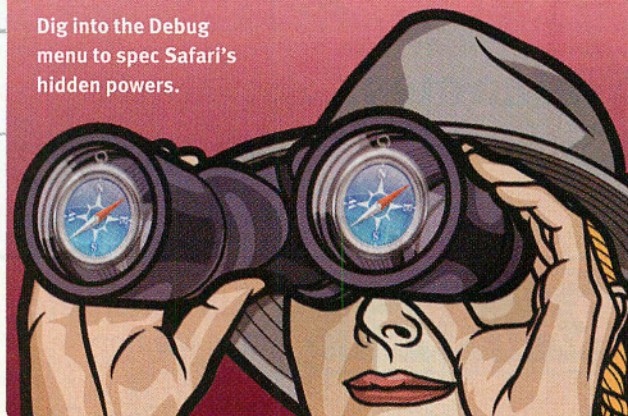
By Russ Hunter

WHAT YOU NEED

Mac OS X 10.2 or later (\$129, www.apple.com)Safari (free, www.apple.com)

It's been two years since Steve came down from the mountain bearing the brushed-metal tablets of the Safari Web browser. Now that Safari has become a daily habit for most of us, we'll show you how to use the hidden

Dig into the Debug menu to spec Safari's hidden powers.



Safari Debug menu to import and export bookmarks, access some supposedly "Windows only" Web sites, and test the performance of your own Web site. Roll up your sleeves!

1 Do the Debug

First we'll enable the Debug menu by tweaking Safari's .plist file. Quit Safari and launch the Terminal (Applications/Utilities); at the prompt, type **defaults write com.apple.Safari IncludeDebugMenu 1**, press Return, and close the Terminal. Launch Safari, and you'll see the Debug menu to the right of the Help menu. To get rid of the Debug menu, launch the Terminal, type **defaults write com.apple.Safari IncludeDebugMenu 0**, and press Return. You can also enable the Debug menu by using TextEdit (Applications/TextEdit) to open the file *user name/Library/Preferences/com.apple.Safari.plist*. Find **<key> IncludeDebugMenu </key>**; immediately after that line, change **<string>0</string>** to **<string>1</string>**. Save the file, launch Safari, and enjoy the Debug menu.

Enable Safari's Debug menu, and the geeky fun begins.



3 Access Safari-Unfriendly Sites

Sooner or later it happens to every Safari user—you click on a link and get a message informing you that the site doesn't support your browser. Sometimes this is due to Windows-dependent elements on the page. But in many cases, it just means the lazy site owner hasn't tested the page with Safari and simply doesn't know about the lapse of browser manners.

Select **Debug > User Agent** and choose a supported browser. Selecting Windows MSIE 6.0 works with most sites. The new User Agent will apply only to Safari's currently active window or tab. When you change the User Agent, the page you're on will reload, but if the site has already redirected you to a "Browser not supported" page, you may need to use the Back button and click the original link again. If Safari still can't handle the site, you can use **Debug > Open Page With** to open the page in another browser.

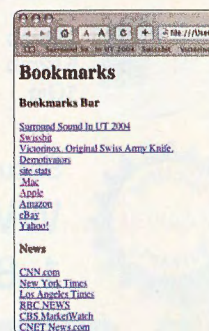


No IE 6? No problem. Safari can sneak onto most Web sites.

2 Brandish Your Bookmarks

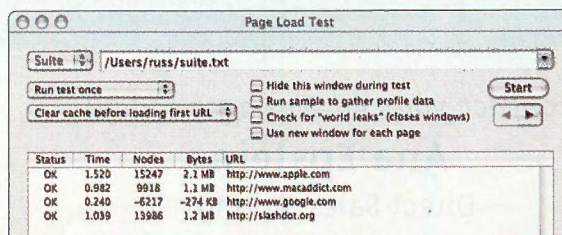
Although many browsers can't directly import Safari's Bookmark.plist file (located in *user name/Library/Safari*), there is one format practically all browsers can understand: HTML. To export your Safari bookmarks in this format, select **Debug > Export Bookmarks**. Loading bookmarks from another browser into Safari is just as easy. Save or export your bookmarks from the other browser as an HTML file; then go to Safari, select **Debug > Import Bookmarks**, and navigate to the file. Bonus: You can drag your exported Safari Bookmarks.html file into an open Safari window or onto the Safari Dock icon to open the file as a page of clickable hyperlinks.

Once you export your Safari bookmarks, you can take them anywhere—even into a Safari window.



4 Speed-Test Your Own Site

To summon the Web-page stopwatch, select **Show Page Load Test Window** from the Debug Menu. Enter your site's URL in the bar, specify how many times you'd like to run the test and whether to clear the page from Safari's cache, and then click **Start** to begin. If you have multiple sites to test, use Text Edit to create a text file listing them, one per line; choose Suite from the drop-down menu and type in the full path to the text file. Safari will test each URL in the file, reporting both individual site results and a cumulative result for the suite.



Use Page Load Test to find out how fast your Web site loads.

ILLUSTRATION BY CHRISTINA EMPEDOCLES

Russ Hunter digs Safari, but still loves Lynx, the old-school text-only browser.

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Pg. 73

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Dr. Bott



DotMouse

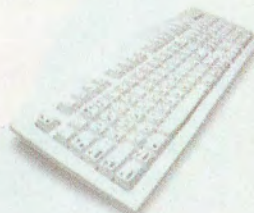
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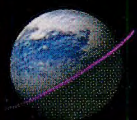


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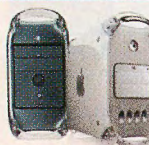
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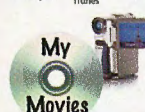
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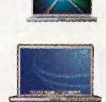


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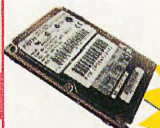
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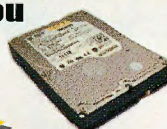
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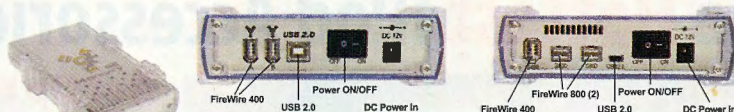
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Mercury Elite Pro

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120GB	7200RPM	8MB	\$169.99	\$189.99	\$209.99
160GB	7200RPM	8MB	\$179.99	\$199.99	\$219.99
200GB	7200RPM	8MB	\$209.99	\$239.99	\$249.99
250GB	7200RPM	8MB	\$239.99	\$259.99	\$279.99
400GB	7200RPM	8MB	\$449.99	\$479.99	\$499.99

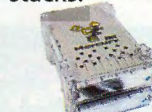
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* Elite 800 Pro Fw800/400 solution has same ports as pictured FW800/400 + USB model, without the USB 2.0 port.

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40GB	5400RPM	16MB	\$159.97	\$169.99
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60GB	7200RPM	'Fastest Ever!'	\$249.97	\$259.99
80GB	4200RPM	'Highest Capacity'	\$229.97	\$239.99
80GB	5400RPM	8MB 'Fast-High Cap.!'	\$239.97	\$249.99
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120GB	7200RPM	8MB	\$139.99
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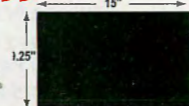
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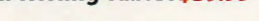
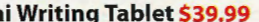
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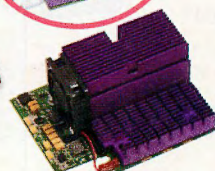
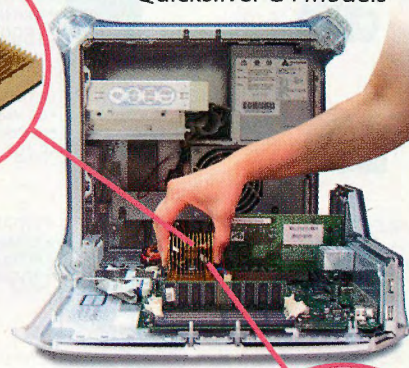
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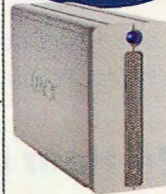
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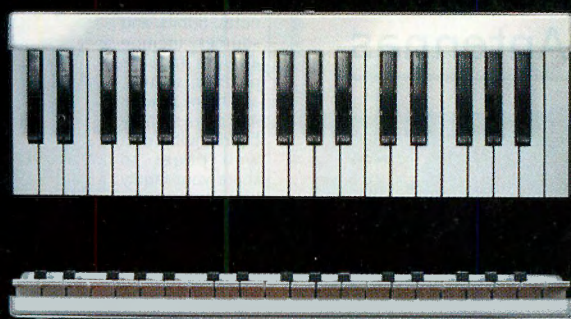
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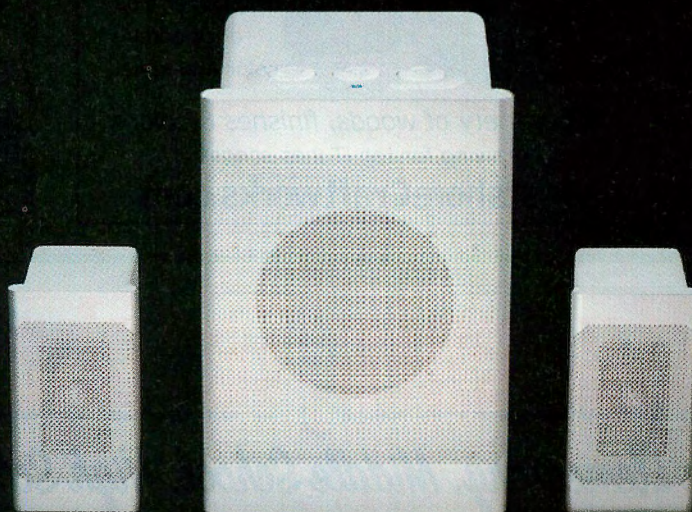
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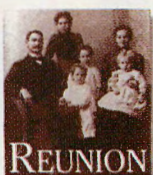
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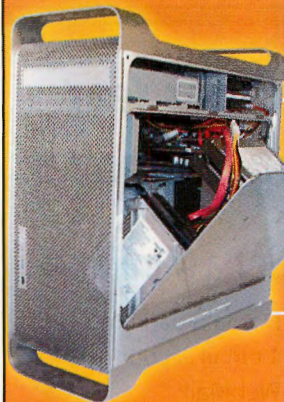
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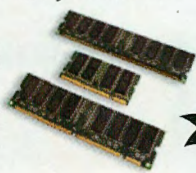
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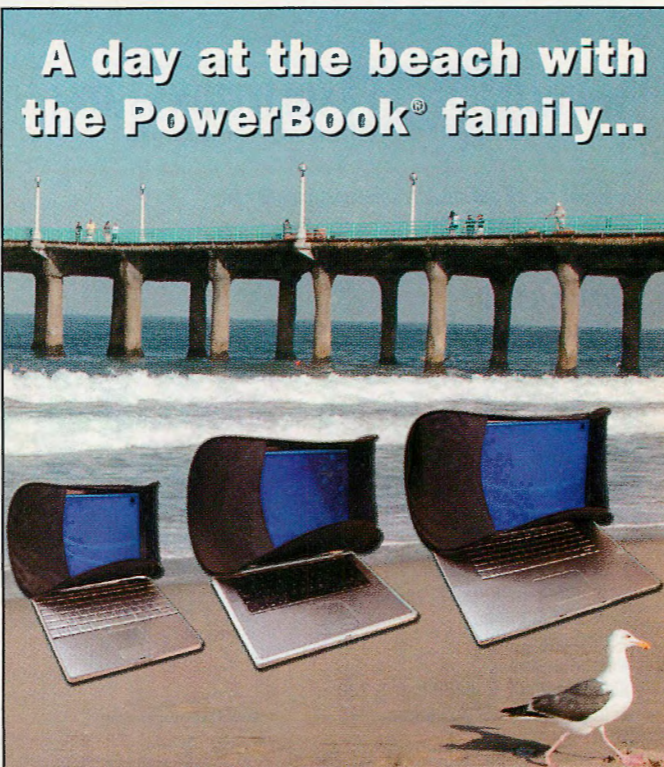
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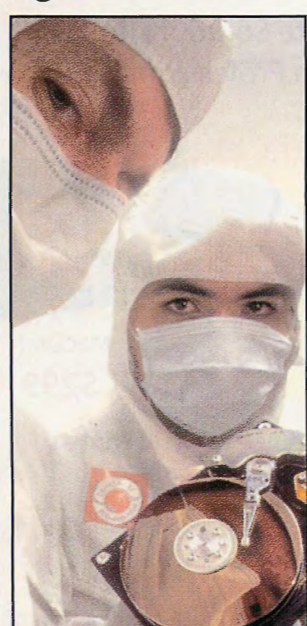
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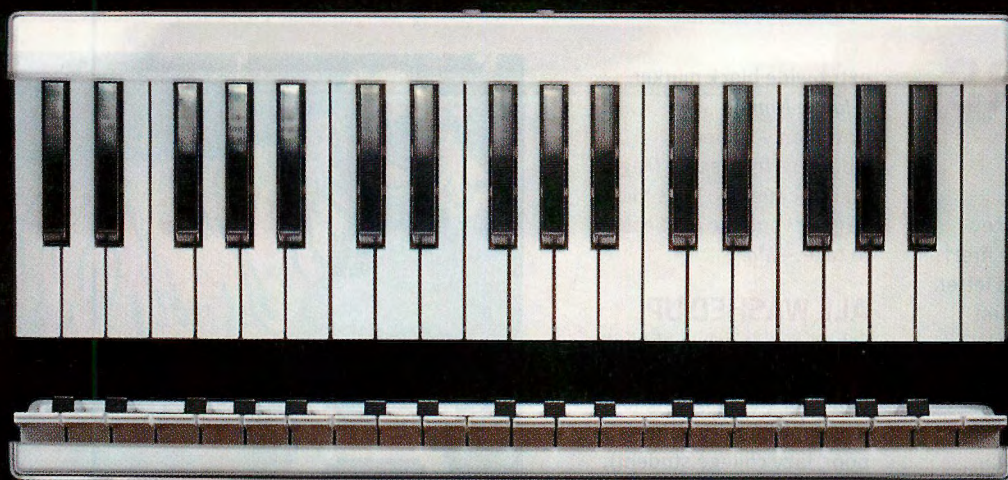
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LETTERS

WHEN YOU'RE HOT...

I've been a reader since issue 1, but this is the first time I've written you a letter. I always thought my first letter would be Mac-related, but this question needed answering: Why is the guy on page 80 of your 100th anniversary spectacular (Dec/04) on fire?—*Steve K*



A hunk, a hunk o' burnin' love.

The lab tech in that photo is none other than our loyal intern, Noah Tsutsui, who is, inarguably, totally hot.—*Max*

FEMALE TROUBLE

Congratulations on the 100th issue. I bought *MacAddict's* first issue while working in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and was surprised to find that some fanatic had gone through the whole magazine carefully obliterating the faces of women with an

extra-wide black marker.

—*Jamie Nimmo*

Now if only someone would perform some Magic Markification on Rik's pic, page 8 would be a bit easier to take.—*Max*

ALL WASHED UP

Let no one speak ill of Apple or the iPod. When I came home for Thanksgiving (and to get my laundry done—poor, lazy college student), somehow my precious iPod ended up in the wash. I was devastated—but after it dried out three days later, I plugged it in and it fired right up. Perhaps I should open up an iPod-cleaning service.

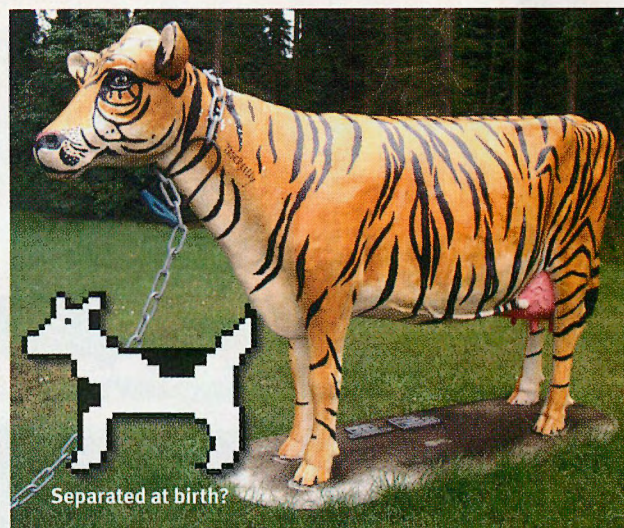
—*Matt Blodgett*

INFINIBAND AID

I read with interest "The Future of the Mac" (Nov/04, p16) which predicted that InfiniBand networking technology would not appear on the Mac in 2005. In November 2004 my company, Small Tree Communications, announced its InfiniBand product support for the Mac. So since InfiniBand support on the Mac appeared in 2004 and not in 2005, your prediction is correct.

—*Corky Seeber*

Not to be picky, Corky, but we said that InfiniBand will not appear "on the Mac" in 2005, not on a PCI card in a Mac.—*Max*



Separated at birth?

RECENTLY SIGHTED, REDUX

You mention a feline-to-bovine experiment in *Log Out* (Jan/05). Don't tell me Bill Gates is trying to come up with his own version of Clarus the dogcow!

—*Scott Baret*

STICKER SITUATION

I finally figured out a good use for those Apple logo stickers you get with every new Mac. I needed to wrap these presents and I didn't have any tape, so... Luckily the recipient is as big a Mac fan as I am.—*Luke Krill*



Necessity is the mother of decoration.

PRIDE GOETH...

Are you guys getting paid off by Symantec to recommend virus software? I have two Macs, have never had antivirus software installed, and have never gotten a virus! I don't even have a firewall, aside from my router, and if I knew how to turn that off, I would too. For 13 years I've used computers and never got a virus, so either I'm smart or the people that get viruses are really dumb! Can Symantec pay me too? I'll tell people to install that crap right away!—*tomek*

Before you double-click another stranger's email attachment, *tomek*, grab your copy of Webster's and look up the word *hubris*.—*Max*

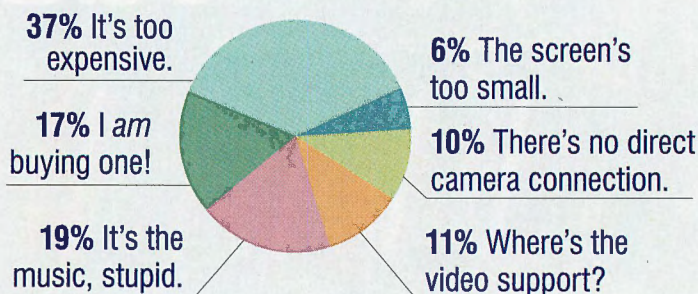
WHO GNU?

Your "Unix University" item (*Ask Us*, Jan/04, p54) about emacs-styled text editing solved a puzzle that's been driving me nuts. On occasion, when I was typing in Apple Mail or filling in

Survey Say

Here are the results of our November 2004 survey. Check out www.macaddict.com each month for a new online poll.

Why aren't you buying an iPod photo?



772 respondents

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LOG OUT  79

a Web form in Safari, my cursor would spontaneously jump to the beginning or end of the line. Lo and behold, it turns out that both Mail and Safari support some emacs commands, including Control-A and Control-E, which move the cursor to the beginning and end of the line, respectively. I was invoking those commands by inadvertently letting the palm of my left hand graze the very sensitive Control key at the bottom left of my keyboard as I typed the letter A or E! —*Dave Kupiec*

LAZARUS DRIVE

In your "Total Troubleshooting" story (Jan/05, p16), you suggested whacking, roasting, or freezing a dead drive to bring it back to life. Before you resort to such extremes I suggest you try Prosoft's Data Rescue (www.prosofteng.com)—it once fixed a drive that my Mac couldn't even recognize. We all want to whack our Macs upon occasion, but sometimes a gentle approach is better. —*perl grrrl*

Good point, Ms. grrrl. We were talking about hard-core hardware failures, but our experience has also shown that Data Rescue can

sometimes save you from resorting to mashed Maxtor, savory seared Seagate, or Hitachisicles.—*Max*

SUCCINCT

I just had to drop you a line and let you know that I think the Jan/05 Staff Video was f***ing brilliant!—*Josh*

JAZZY JOB

I was thrilled at the inclusion of Frank Midgley's mosaic-making MacOSaiX (<http://homepage.mac.com/knarf/MacOSaiX>) on the Disc (Dec/04). So thrilled, in fact, that I used it to create the cover of the January issue of JAZZIZ magazine, of which I am art director, to convey a whole year's worth of music for our annual critics' choice issue. I used 1,319 CD covers, a photo of a sax player, MacOSaiX, and *voilà!*—*Benjamin Rennells*



Fine software. Fine cover.
Fine magazine.

MA'CHAIM!

I was browsing The Webtender (www.webtender.com), a drink-mixing site, when I noticed this recipe.—*Brian Hahn*

The MacAttack

- 1 ounce gin
- 1 ounce Midori melon liqueur
- Fill 1/2 grape juice
- Fill 1/2 club soda

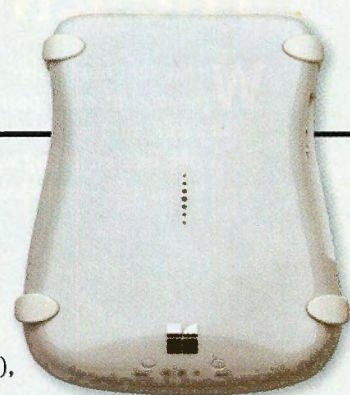
In a shaker with ice, add all ingredients. Shake so that all parts mix together. Serve on ice in a hurricane glass.

Creator's comments: *This may not sound very good, but it will surprise you. Prepare to be MacAttacked!*

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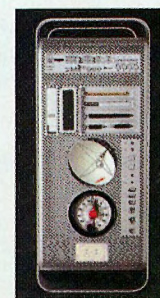
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Deadline for entry: **March 31, 2005.** Contest results will appear in our Jul/05 issue.

Contest Rules The judges will be MacAddict editors and will base their decision on 33 percent humor, 33 percent originality, and 33 percent creativity. All entries must be received no later than March 31, 2005, with the winner announced around July 2005. By entering this contest, you agree that Future Network USA may use your name, likeness, and Web site for promotional purposes without further payment. All prizes will be awarded, and no minimum number of entries is required. If two or more people enter identical winning captions, the entry received first will be awarded the contest prize. Prizes won by minors will be awarded to their parents or legal guardians. Future Network USA is not responsible for damages or expenses the winners might incur as a result of this contest or the receipt of a prize, and winners are responsible for income taxes based on the value of the prize received. A list of winners may also be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Future Network USA c/o MacAddict Contest, 150 North Hill Dr., Ste. 40, Brisbane, CA 94005. This contest is limited to residents of the United States. No purchase necessary, void in Arizona, Maryland, Vermont, Puerto Rico, and where prohibited by law.

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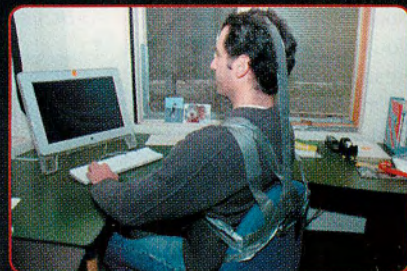
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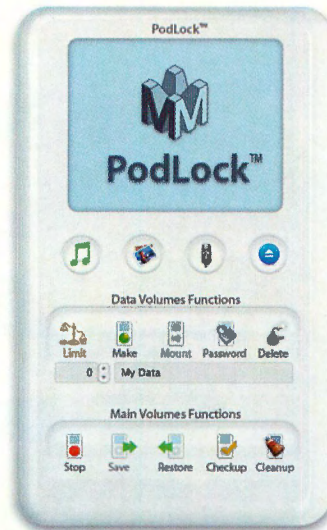


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